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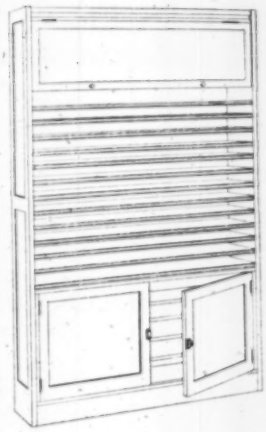

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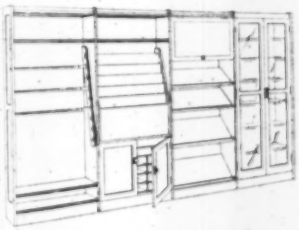

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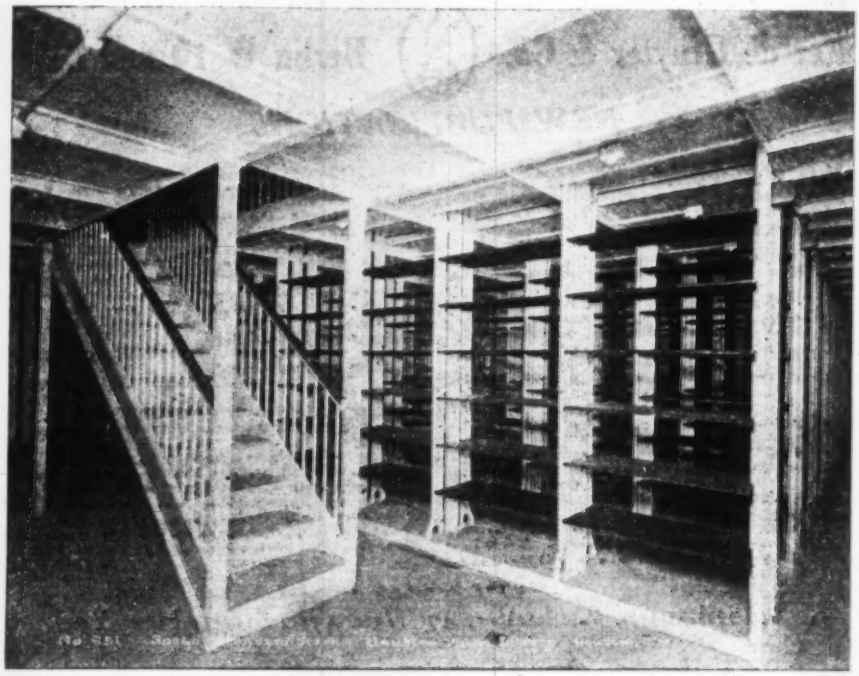

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THE LIBRARY JOURNAL

TWICE-A-MONTH AUGUST, 1927

The Educational Functions of a Public Library

Presidential Address of Arthur E. Bostwick to the American Library Institute at its Meeting in Toronto, June 23, 1927.

WE are rather fond of claiming for the public library a place among educational institutions but I do not know that anyone has ever made an attempt to define its place or to describe its functions in this respect. Not very long ago, librarians, I think, would have been pretty sure to agree that whatever these functions were they were not those of a school or of any formal teaching institution. In whatever way the library might educate, at any rate it must not do this in a compulsory manner or by schedule of any kind. The fact that the users of the library went to it voluntarily and could leave it at any moment, and that they themselves selected the exact manner in which they should make use of it, has generally been regarded, it seems to me, as one of its prime assets. In fact, the moment that one regards the library as a school and the librarian and his assistants as a principal with a corps of teachers, at that moment it inevitably takes second place, because all these functions are naturally performed more systematically and with proper results in an institution that has been organized so to perform them and is manned by a staff that has been trained to this end.

A major disadvantage of our systems of formal education, it has always seemed to me, lies in the necessity for making them one-sided. This is not so noticeable in elementary education, for there the subjects taught are not matters of controversy. Some people may still believe the earth to be flat but there are not enough of them to warrant our mentioning this fact in our elementary geographies. But when one gets into the secondary school or university, he meets a host of controverted subjects and education in these subjects certainly requires a knowledge that they are controverted, a knowledge of the position of both parties in the controversy and the arguments of the principal authorities. Now the teachers in these subjects are usually themselves experts and an expert is usually himself a controversialist. He has taken a definite stand on one side or the other and he has done his best to defend it, sometimes thru a lifetime. It is almost impossible that he should not emphasize this side, whatever it may be, in his teaching. We can all think of such cases; many are very noteworthy. In discussing this matter with a body of university professors recently, I was struck with the fact that most of them did not consider this state of affairs at all objectionable. Nothing is so stimulating, they thought, as opposition, and a one-sided statement inevitably arouses opposition and causes the student to familiarize himself with the other side. I do not know with what type of students these professors have had occasion to deal, but my experience leads me to believe that this reaction would only be experienced with the active and original type of mind that is anxious to hear both sides of everything and is always looking for a contrary side. The ordinary student, on the other hand, is only too ready to conclude that the matter as presented to him has been presented in its entirety, that where a subject is not stated to be controverted, there is only one opinion about it among students. With a mind of this type, one-sided statement is equivalent to shutting out the other side altogether. As a matter of fact, of course, the acceptance or rejection of one view or the other, is practically equivalent to the assertion that there are really only two degrees of probability—one hundred per cent and zero—whereas these two degrees very seldom are present, almost every assertion that can be made having a probability greater than zero and less than one hundred per cent. In one's later scholastic education, after he has learned in some degree to think for himself, he makes, either consciously or unconsciously, an effort to evaluate subjects in this way, but I do not believe that anyone was ever taught to do so in school

or college and I am not prepared to say that it would be possible in any effective way. What I am calling attention to is that we are adopting in our formal education the method that the French have adopted in the administration of justice—a method that we long ago definitely discarded in our own courts as ineffectual. Note that both in the courts and in education we are dealing in many cases with matter of controversy and that our object is to get at the truth if we can. Everyone, of course, would agree that in such an effort one must approach the question from both sides and all points of view. The French theory (and it is admirable in theory) is that a single man, learned in the law, can get at the truth by his own unaided efforts, but the trouble is that it is almost impossible for such a man to be impartial. He may try to be and he may think that he is, but in the end he will unconsciously take one side or the other. As a matter of fact a *juge d'instruction* usually takes the side of the accuser and becomes in effect a prosecuting officer. We have definitely acknowledged this necessity of taking sides by appointing lawyers, each one of which shall take a definite stand on one side or the other and do his best to defend that side. Then we have an officer to judge, whose business it is to decide who has been the victor in the debate. There are definite disadvantages in our system just as there are in the French, but on the whole, I believe that, given the natural defects of human nature, it is the best way to get at all the facts and to decide on the truth.

Now what I wish you to note is that in our educational institutions we have definitely adopted the French method instead of the Anglo-Saxon. I do not know that any other course would be possible, altho I have known some good results to arise from the accidental presence in a university of two professors who took opposite sides on a controverted point. The fact that they did so aroused special interest among the students and I believe was beneficial. It might be well to see that in this way different sides of controverted questions were personally represented on a large university faculty.

But after all, one does not become definitely orientated in matters of this kind until many years after he has finished his formal education. He must work things out for himself by his own mental processes and by contact with the mental processes of others—friends with whom he talks and educators whose books he reads. Here is where the educational value of a public library comes in. It has, or ought to have, books on all sides of every controverted question. Its catalogs or lists and its expert assistants should be ready to give information which will lead the reader with the least waste of time to the books that will be most helpful to him on both sides. I suppose that the most successful bit of educational work ever undertaken by librarians is the "Reading with a Purpose" series—an admirable effort, in line with our best traditions. But even here we seem to have discarded our non-partisan—or rather bi-partisan—attitude, in favor of the mono-partisanship of the schools. Not that we have taken a partisan stand on controverted subjects, but that we have carefully avoided such subjects. Where is our list on Evolution? on Fundamentalism? on Relativity? on Behaviorism? on Prohibition? on Protection? on Birth Control? Yet these are the subjects on which we are all in need of education. Which of us here can give a good account of the arguments for and against Socialism? or Government Ownership? or the present methods of taxation? There are many experts on these subjects but they are usually experts on one side only.

We greatly need informational books that will serve the library in an educational program as the text book serves the schools. Our school text-books are written with the expectation that a teacher will be at hand to expound and explain; at any rate such exposition is generally necessary, as anyone can testify who has tried to read by himself any text in a difficult subject. We need self-explanatory texts that can be read by any intelligent person. Such texts exist in some subjects, notably in French; less often in German and English. Since William James led the way, interesting non-fiction is coming into its own. Some of it is now well in advance of best-selling fiction in popularity. Next should come the self-explaining text in advanced subjects.

I have spoken of the library's advantage in dealing with persons who come to it voluntarily. This applies, of course, both to individuals and to groups. Education of any kind may be applied to either of these units and the major problem of all education is to decide in what proportion to deal with the two. To educate entirely by groups is to neglect individual peculiarities and aptitudes. To educate the individual only is to neglect his social functions and his relations with his fellowman. All this applies to the library. I have heard it emphatically stated that adult education in a library must deal solely with the individual. I have understood that, on the other hand, certain of those who are interested are strongly emphasizing the use of groups. They are both right, but both wrong so far as each method excludes the other. But when we do deal with groups, let us not forget the advantage of which I have already spoken—that of voluntary association and action. A group formed by the library and led by it almost always lacks cohesion. The group, on

the contrary, that comes together of itself, and takes its own course has just this superior virtue. No library should attempt to form groups of its own so long as there are already existing groups to which it has not given full service. It will be found that such service is always educational and that it is the kind of education that the library is best adapted to use as its tool.

I desire in this connection to call attention to the recent experiments of Claude Bussard, a young French student of animal behavior, described in detail in the *Comptes Rendus* of the Sociéte de Biologie (90: 749) and reviewed in *La Nature* (Paris). Bussard has devised a machine by which small animals can be automatically trained in certain courses of behavior and their reaction to the training and progress in it graphically recorded without human intervention. One of his most striking results is that training is more rapid and effective when several animals are subjected together to the action of the machine. This corresponds to the group-training of pupils in the class-room. We have long been familiar with training of this type in the school and understand its effectiveness. It is, however, especially adapted to early training of the compulsory type where imitation and not reflection is the most important thing—the type well exemplified in such a machine as Bussard's. Our formal scholastic education, especially in its earlier stages, must partake of the nature of such a machine. But in another of Bussard's results, the effect of periods of darkness and quiet during which the animal is given an opportunity to "reflect" is emphasized. Such periods are not well adapted to machine training because their length and conditions must be optimum for the individual. Here I believe we have the analogue of the kind of education that the library is especially fitted to offer.

The Rev. Dr. Thomas R. Slicer of New York City, a pulpit orator with a great knack for hitting the nail on the head, once told me this tale: A frantic widow, recently bereaved, came to him for consolation and said "Dr. Slicer, they tell me my husband is in heaven; but, oh Dr. Slicer, where is heaven?" The good lady wanted some kind of a topographical guide—geographical, or perhaps I should say, cosmical. The doctor, of course, could not give it, but he was somewhat embarrassed because one cannot administer comfort with a negative statement. He adopted the plan that had been used before him by great teachers from Socrates to Abraham Lincoln and told her a story. "Once," he said, "I was walking alone on the high Alps. I wanted to reach a little village by sunset but I had lost my directions. I met a shepherd and asked him whether he could point out the direction of the village. He answered 'No, I do not know where it lies, but (pointing to the ground) there is the path that will take you to it.'" Dr. Slicer went on: "My dear lady, I do not know where heaven is, but I can tell you how to get there."

This, it seems to me, gives precisely the distinction between the school and the library; the school points out the direction in which we ought to go, the library lets us choose our own destination but tells us how to get there.

What I am saying relates, of course, only to public libraries. University librarians are familiar with the great advances that have been made during the past fifty years in relating their collections to the curriculum. When I was in college such a relation was practically non-existent and a university library was largely a collection for the use of faculty members and graduate students. But this very advance and the obvious advantages consequent upon it involves, it seems to me, a certain danger to public librarians. Because the collection of books in a university is now functioning as an adjunct of its teaching processes, they assume that a public library should also so function and that if there are no teaching processes in connection with it, such processes should be inaugurated or at least imitated. The fact is that, as we have seen, the absence of teaching processes in a public library is one of its essential features and any analogy that may be set up between it and an university library is uncalled for and untrue.

Because the independent library and that which is an adjunct of a teaching institution are so different in their methods and aims it is much to be deprecated that the A. L. A. has now, thru its Board of Education for Librarianship, officially subscribed to the doctrine that training for librarianship should preferably be handled in connection with a college or university. The result will inevitably be, it seems to me, to standardize for all libraries the methods properly applicable only to university libraries, and to create in the minds of their graduates, who are to administer the public libraries of the future, the impression that so far as these are educational institutions, they should be governed by the traditions of the schools and modify their methods in the direction of those properly and inevitably employed by scholastic bodies. The idea, also, that because it is desirable that a teacher should possess a certain academic degree, we should also require the same degree of a candidate for librarianship seems to me distinctly a *non-sequitur* and another step in the direction not only of formalizing our informal library tradition, but of formalizing it in the direction of an institutional tradition wholly dis-

tinct from it and in some measure opposed to it.

To summarize: it seems to me that we can thus briefly state the difference between the school and the library.

1. A school teaches; a library helps one to learn.
2. A school decides what we ought to learn and insists that we learn it; a library finds out what we want to know and assists us to know it.
3. A school is dogmatic—when elementary it may be necessarily one-sided; a library presents all sides and advocates none.

It is my earnest belief that we should keep these distinctions carefully in mind in our efforts to do educational work.

Training for the School Librarian

IN a paper read before the A.L.A. College and Reference Section at its Toronto meeting (see page 761), Adeline B. Zachert led the discussion of the college or university as a proper ground for preparation of school librarians. The following abstract has been prepared by James A. McMillan, secretary of that Section.

Miss Zachert prefaced her remarks by showing the existing need for school librarians and the small supply of these available to take charge of libraries in our public schools. No school library is really a functioning institution unless the person in charge is competent to direct it. To be really able to manage such a library a teacher or librarian must have had a certain amount of technical training especially adapted to this phase of library work. To be effective the librarian must also be qualified as a teacher and thus have the same status as any other teacher in the school. Her special training in school library management enables her to be rated a specialist.

School administrators are already convinced of the great value of a properly organized and managed school library but are not yet convinced of the need for regular library school trained librarians to have charge of these libraries. They are rather awaiting opportunities for interested and competent teachers to secure the technical training most needed in this type of library. Such training cannot now be easily secured by such teachers without sacrifice of a full year of teaching to attend a regular library school. Another difficulty is that the library school curriculum is so fixed that one preparing for school library work must devote too much time to certain subjects which will be relatively unimportant to her in her later work.

Main emphasis should be placed on school library administration wherein the particular problems of the school library are considered. "Upon completion of a course in school library management the library teacher should know how to apply her newly learned knowledge directly, without having to modify and adapt too much. She should know where to obtain and how to use the various aids now specially prepared for school libraries such as the *Standard Catalog*, handbooks in school library management and lists and bulletins published by her state department of public instruction. As a teacher she knows how to orgnaize student helpers to do much of the routine work. Her teaching knowledge and experience enable her to plan courses of instruction to pupils in the use of books and library tools. Her understanding of the course of study and the plans and methods used by the other teachers in her school simplifies the problem of enlisting their co-operation in the full use of the school library. Teachers in many places have conclusively demonstrated that they can give good and often exceptional service as library teachers after a twelve semester hours' course in library technique specially designed to meet school conditions."

Teachers suited to school library work can be induced to take such technical training if it is offered in courses extending over two summer sessions. That there is a demand for just this sort of training is amply illustrated by attendance at all summer schools offering courses specially for school library workers. There are not now facilities for giving this training to all who desire it and this naturally brings forth the query where shall such prospective library teachers be trained? They should be trained where the teachers themselves are trained, and, accordingly, the teachers' colleges and the schools of education in our universities should offer such instruction if our school libraries are to be properly conducted.

Proper credits toward degrees, both baccalaureate and post graduate, can be offered for such courses in these institutions while courses in our regular library schools rarely have such exchange value with degree granting institutions except possibly their own.

Why should the prospective school librarian devote much extra time to subjects she is likely never to use? It is far better for her to be a certified teacher with technical training in school library management than to be a librarian without having the status of a teacher. The colleges and universities should provide opportunities for the sort of training needed by those teachers who are to serve as school librarians.

The Need of an Introductory Manual in Bibliography

By FRANK K. WALTER.
University Librarian, University of Minnesota

IT is only fair to state at the outset that this* is neither a blurb for a forthcoming book nor an advance review. This statement is due because it is probable that an elementary manual, to which I have collaborated in a slight degree, and of which your secretary is the direct cause, will appear in the not distant future. This is a plea for general recognition of a situation, not for consideration of any specific attempt at a solution of the problem.

Fundamentally, all libraries and all library work depend on the use of the books and a knowledge of them which leads to their use. It must be admitted that this is not always recognized. I still have vivid recollections of a three-cornered discussion, doubtless long since forgotten by the two leading disputants, in which I was rash enough to say that I was certain the prime need of librarians generally was greater knowledge of more books. The other two, both of whom have attained high office status in the American Library Association, vigorously and vehemently assured me that I spoke from the depths of ignorance. The librarian, they said, must first of all circulate books. He must get other people to use them rather than know them himself. Salesmanship and not knowledge of stock is the chief desideratum.

It must be admitted that perusal of library publications indicates that this opinion may still represent a rather general state of mind. I may belong to the relatively unrecognized if not always silent minority. Nevertheless, I retain my belief. I am not willing to admit that even salesmen can profitably dispense with knowledge of their stock. There may be some super-salesmen who can shift without preliminary preparation from selling ten-ton trucks to spreading the blessings of civilization thru rayon, but they are few.

It is doubtful, whether the most minutely standardized or syndicated manual or discussion of library work will break down the old cardinal divisions of library work into selection, acquisition, circulation and reference use, and administrative routine necessary or desirable to carry out the first three of these library functions. If books are not selected presumably with at least some knowledge of their contents and significance to users of the library, intelligent purchase is impossible, nor can circulation or reference use be either properly stimulated or defended.

The half-mythical "old-fashioned librarian" was usually a bookman. Library science began with bibliography. An historical survey, for which I have neither time nor enough detailed knowledge on hand to present here, would go straight down the line from the Chaldean clay tablet booklists and record-case labels, thru the reputed catalogs of Callimachus, the manuscript inventories of Roman and monastic manuscript collections, the printed catalogs of Gesner, Santander and other noted collectors, to the Library of Congress depository catalog, the *A. L. A. Catalog* of 1926 and the unfinished *International Union List of Periodicals*.

Doubtless this earlier aspect was too exclusively cultivated. Many early writers on libraries, like John Durrie, Peignot, Ebert, Parent and Bray realized that books and readers are both essential to library development, but they were voices crying in the wilderness. It is needless to trace here the rise of the idea of general library service. With its rise, of necessity came the development of library method and administrative organization. Interest in the individual book lessened as interest in the diffused use of books increased. In our zeal we, or rather our professional forbears, gave to the very word "bibliography" such limited meaning that to many library workers today it means virtually nothing but a list of book titles or references to printed material of some sort. We have enlarged the professional doorway and reception hall while we have closed many of the rooms to which the doorway and hall should lead. In our feeling of responsibility for utilizing books for the social welfare thru wider use of them, we sometimes forget the importance of getting our public interested enough in books to own at least some for themselves and, at least, to know enough about them to borrow them intelligently.

It is not impossible that this may be one of the elements in the regrettable, but undeniable lack of public interest in adequate library support. Private ownership of books and personal

* Substance of an address before the American Library Institute, Toronto, June 23, 1927.

interest in them are essential to permanent library growth. The man who owns books will probably see their value to others. If, as is often the case, he acquires them thru some sacrifice, he can better appreciate what it costs to maintain collections for the use of the public, of which he is a part. If he has progressed to the stage where he considers the book not only for its contents, but as a product of typographic art (which in itself implies a knowledge of other graphic arts) he is more likely to desire and treat with proper care the book of lasting value in attractive form.

We have hinted that even librarians may forget that the appeal of the book is varied. It should, of course, first of all, make its appeal thru its contents. Our myriad booklists, standard catalogs and other aids to book selection furnish, according to the user, a guide to knowledge of the subject matter of books or an easy substitute for personal knowledge and independent judgment concerning them. Better a good book in poor form than a poor book in attractive dress. Librarians generally assert as well as concede this. There should be no need of choosing either alternative if more people really cared for books.

Again, the book may attract because of its value as a work of art. The hackneyed definition of printing as "the art preservative of all arts" persists because of its essential truth. Of all art products the book is the most widely distributed. Typography, because of its limited media, is rigid within certain conventional limits, but almost infinite in the variety of expression within these limits. Not even on royal tomb or temple or palace or cathedral has more patient care or inspired thought been lavished than on the decoration of manuscript and book. The modern printer in general is learning what the great printers have always known—that there is harmony between the form and the contents and the purpose of a book and that in the expression of that harmony all the fundamentals of graphic art are concerned. Even literary salesmanship is learning the economic if not the cultural value of artistic books and cheaper as well as better methods of production are being used with artistic effect in view. As better books gain in favor because they are artistic, private ownership will increase.

This growing interest in books is apparent. The popularity of works like those of A. Edward Newton, whose private library possessions are far beyond the reach of nearly all of his readers, would have been extremely doubtful twenty years ago. The bookish articles of the patron saint of high book prices, and arch distributor of book rarities, Dr. A. S. W. Rosenbach, have significantly appeared not in the *Atlantic Monthly*, which sponsored Newton's articles, but in that reflectroscope of mass interest, the *Saturday Evening Post*.

This growing interest in books as books should be capitalized by libraries for it shows that the reason for libraries, the personal value of books, is being more fully realized. I have been assured by librarians in one of the largest cities of the country that its relative conservatism on library matters is due to the fact that wide-spread private purchases of books make certain publicity modes and devices beloved of librarians in general inexpedient in that city. Lessened library circulation due to such a cause is honorable.

Again, the significance of the book in social history is often not adequately understood, nor has it been generally available for popular purposes. Winship's *From Gutenberg to Plantin* is a shining exception. It is no accident that the stately Spanish quartos and folios differ from the Aldines nor that the slovenly seventeenth century English tracts were produced by printers whose time was divided between the production and distribution of their products and dodging the sometimes free and always inadequate board and lodging of the prison. Even the distorted ornament and eccentricity of our own printed products of the nineteenth century have social and historical significance.

All of these phases of the book are of value in general culture. This value as a basis for college and university courses is being more generally recognized. Courses covering these aspects have been given for many years (e.g., at Michigan and Cornell and Harvard). There have been recent expansions or revivals as to Princeton, the course at Yale (described in the LIBRARY JOURNAL of June 13, 1900) and the rather utilitarian course given in 1925-27 at the University of Minnesota.

Finally, some knowledge of bibliographical technic and the general sources of bibliographic information is valuable to the private collector and to every student or reader interested in any subject beyond its most superficial aspects. The most intricate card catalog, the obscure citation in note or appendix and the simplest book catalog have much in common.

The most comprehensive general or special bibliography of all countries and periods, the numberless reading lists issued for home or school use, the critical reviews with their extended articles and brief book notes, doctor's theses and booksellers' catalogs are all based on a few standard forms which are often unrecognized because so generally accepted if not always consistently followed. The first steps in using books for utilitarian purposes or acquiring them for their cultural or artistic values are simple and of general application.

In library schools and library training de-

partments of colleges and universities, especially in the more elementary courses, there is often need of a manual which at least indicates that there is a common purpose and a common product behind the catalog, the reference desk, the circulation department and the bulletin or other publicity device. This is, if you will pardon the repetition, the promotion of the wider use of better books in libraries of all kinds and by readers whenever they may be found or encouraged or developed. The multiple service of the books as an instrument for gaining wider information or promoting scholarship, as an expression of social development, and as an artistic product deserves wider recognition among the professional apostles of the book.

There are numerous books about books. These are of varying merit and differing scope. Most of them are out of print. Several school manuals like Arnett's *Elements of Library Methods* and Fay and Eaton's *Use of Books and Libraries* make no pretension of service to the special student, the advanced collegian or the collector. Aldis' *Printed Book* in the "Cambridge Manuals of Success and Literature," is an excellent historical summary, unfortunately out of print; Davenport's *The Book; its History and Development;* Rawlings' *Story of Books* are similar in scope; Humphrey's *Private Library;* Wheatley's *How to Form a Library* ("Booklovers' Library") and several other similar books are out of date or out of print, or both. All of these ignore the research side. Guild's *Librarian's Manual* is worth consideration as an excellent expression of the library ideas of its time, but it is almost a rarity as well as obsolete. Schneider's *Handbuch der Bibliographie* is admirable for the scholar, but formidable for the beginner and limited in scope. The list might be greatly increased, but I know of no recent manual in English, still in print, which covers the general field indicated here.

For these reasons your interest in any creditable attempt to promote wider knowledge of the variety and interest of the general field of bibliography and the general principles of bibliography as an aid to scholarship and research is invited even tho you may feel compelled to withhold your patronage from any specific book which may appear as a contribution in the field.

Recent Progress in Library Extension

A SURVEY of progress in library extension formed the program of the second session of the League of Library Commissions' Toronto Conference. (See page 756.) Miss Merrill called the roll of states which are just beginning library extension work, many of which she had visited in her recent field work.

Arizona has organized a library association and a new library law, which was much needed, has passed one branch of the Legislature. The Farm Bureau is interested in promoting county libraries.

Arkansas has established a Library Service Bureau, but without appropriation. The State Federation of Women's Club is giving books and conducting a campaign for an appropriation.

Colorado, said Malcolm Wyer, librarian of Denver, has a Board of Library Commissioners, which has an appropriation of $250 per year, and a Traveling Library Commission, which has $2000 a year. The State Library Association is trying to unify these agencies, and has introduced a number of bills without results. Last year the Board of Library Commissioners asked the Bureau of Governmental Research of the University to make a study of the library situation in the state. They submitted a bill abolishing the existing commissions and providing for a library commission under the direction of the State Superintendent of Public Instruction. This was too late for passage. The Traveling Library Commission, which is sponsored by the Federation of Women's Clubs and interested only in traveling libraries, received an increase in appropriation from $2,000 to $3,000. The State Library Association has asked the American Library Association to make a survey, and at its next meeting to outline a policy which shall enlist the support of all agencies such as the Federation of Women's Clubs, the Parent-Teacher Association and various agricultural organizations, so that some progress may be hoped for.

Florida created a State Library two years ago which is authorized to do extension work. No appointments had been made until this Spring when Miss Merrill visited the state. Appointments have now been made and a secretary elected, but the board is not complete as yet.

In New Mexico, a library association of four members has been organized. On a recent visit, Miss Merrill carried out a ten days' program which had been planned for her. A Library Extension Council has been organized, representing various organizations to carry on a campaign for state work. There is a county library law which is inadequate.

South Carolina is at present divided into two parts, Greenville and the rest of the state. A demonstration of county service has been given

by Charlotte Templeton at Greenville thru private funds, and there will be a vote on a county library in September. Miss Templeton's absence from this meeting was due to the fact that petitions must be in soon. At a recent state-meeting interest was manifest in many quarters. The Director of Agricultural Extension was interested in traveling libraries, the Home Demonstration agent was collecting data on conditions, articles had appeared in the *University News-Letter*, and the Parent-Teacher Association was lending its support.

Tennessee was represented by Mary Rothrock, of Knoxville, president of the State Library Association. She said that two years ago, at a meeting of librarians and teachers and others interested, with the A.L.A. Committee on Library Extension, a request was made to the governor to appoint a commission for the study of library conditions in Tennessee. It was rather a committee for the study of the book supply, reading conditions and interest. The Commission was appointed eight months ago, comprising the president of the University of Tennessee, the State Commissioner of Education, librarians of public and college libraries, representatives of the Parent-Teacher Association and Federation of Women's Clubs. The commission met in January for organization and determined on the necessity for a survey of library conditions as the first step. For this the sum of $10,000 was needed, but this is not yet in sight. In the mean time, the Tennessee Library Association is accumulating information, carrying on publicity and preparing the ground for the survey.

In Utah the library association is working for a more effective state extension agency. At present, a library organizer is employed for only one-third of the time under the Department of Public Instruction.

In Wyoming, a new state librarian has been appointed who shows an interest in county libraries.

Essae Culver, secretary of the Louisiana Library Commission, gave a report on the Louisiana Demonstration. She resumed the activities of the first year, during which a location was secured, a collection of books started, and a survey of the state was made. The parish or county system was adopted. The first parish library was established under the old law. Service was given to the State Legislature and a very successful summer school was conducted. The State Legislature passed a library law and made an appropriation for the Commission of $5,000. During the second year, a second parish library was established under the new law. A one-mill tax, which would have provided $15,000 for a population of 18,000 was voted upon, but was lost by a few votes. It was then decided to put on demonstrations in two parishes. One was in the southern part of the state, in a parish which had one public library with an appropriation of $1500. A member of the Commission resided there, who was also president of the local library board and parish library board. Each community was to provide a place for the books and a custodian. On February 1, 3000 volumes were sent to the parish, to ten distributing points. The first month the circulation was 3000. Another branch was located in a French district, where only French is spoken. At the State Teachers' Association, unusual excellence in reading in this parish was credited to its library facilities.

"The demonstrations have been very successful, but the flood has, of course, been very disastrous, and libraries may have to wait until homes can be rebuilt and industry and business restored. One librarian removed the front steps, so that boats could come up to the door, and two boys paddled two miles to get books. Publicity has been undertaken personally by one member of the Commission, and we have had splendid support from the superintendent of public instruction and the archbishop. At a meeting of the State Association of Police Jurors (corresponding to county supervisors in other states) the parish (county) library plan was explained, and the attorney-general made a fine plea for libraries, saying that the welfare of the state depends on its individuals. The Association endorsed the plan unanimously and promised to do all in its power to promote it."

The section of the program on progress in Canada was prepared by Mary J. L. Black of Fort William, but owing to a conflicting meeting of the Canadian librarians, Miss Black was unable to be present.

"Library Extension in British Columbia" was the subject of a talk by Herbert Killam, secretary of the British Columbia Public Library Commission. This subject has been treated at length in recent numbers of the LIBRARY JOURNAL.

Reports on traveling libraries in Canada were made as follows:

"The McLennan Travelling Libraries," by Elizabeth G. Hall, of McGill University Library, Montreal, whose paper on this subject will be given in a later number. In Canada, 5,399,689 people are without public library service according to figures compiled by the A.L.A.

Traveling libraries in Saskatchewan were described by Margaret McDonald, Traveling Libraries Branch, Regina, Sask. Owing to the fact that Saskatchewan is an agricultural province with very few towns and cities, a large part of the province is dependent upon the government library service (open shelf and

traveling libraries) and this condition is likely to prevail for some years. Libraries are sent to every part of the province, from districts bordering on Montana and North Dakota to Green Lake, a Hudson Bay Post in the far north, where the last lap of the library's journey is made by dog sleds in the winter and canoe in the summer. With few exceptions, all requests for books are filled, and the letters of appreciation leave no doubt as to the value of this service in lessening the loneliness and adding to the pleasure of the people on the prairies.

The Government of Saskatchewan Traveling Library System was started in 1914 to provide books for the people in the rural districts. With the increase in population there has been a steady growth in the demand for libraries. In 1926 about 1200 libraries, containing about 60,000 books, were sent out. It is very difficult to get an accurate estimate of a year's circulation, but a conservative estimate for 1926 would be at least 600,000.

The libraries are made up of fiction (classic and modern), children's books, travel, biography, history, agriculture, etc., with fiction leading in popularity. The libraries are sent in for exchange every six or nine months, and the only cost to the districts using the libraries is the freight one way.

Every year, particularly in the winter, hundreds of appeals are received for "something to read" from isolated settlers, or from small districts where the service cannot spare a traveling library, and these requests are filled by sending out the worn out books from the regular libraries.

The Saskatchewan Open Shelf Library, said Elizabeth Andrews, librarian of Regina, was organized in 1922 with the aim of giving rural Saskatchewan an efficient reference service. With the exception of standard fiction, books are nonfiction, numbering in all 7000. Besides these books, magazines (dating back to 1915), pamphlets, and newspaper clippings are filed. The subjects called for vary from "The Hudson Bay Railway" and "Immigration Problems" to "Tendencies in Modern Poetry." The greater part of the 60,000 books already circulated have been required for definite study, for club programs, extra-mural university work or self improvement. Teachers and farmers form the leading classes of borrowers, the latter numbering 1,732 out of a registration of 4,735, and it is significant to note that economics supply the greater part of their reading.

In the discussion of new county libraries, the following items were reported: Arkansas has passed a county library law. Iowa has established one county library. Miss Robinson reported that a bill amending the present law failed because of some slight technical mistake. North Carolina has amended its library law extending the library tax to counties. California has three new county libraries, two of which are by contract with other county libraries. Miss Merrill reported fifteen new county libraries since the report on library extension was issued, and two others reorganized under new laws.

With relation to increased appropriations, Miss Robinson reported that in Iowa the library law was amended making a three-mill tax available for improvements and repairs. Miss Morey reported that the legislature in Missouri allowed an increase which would have provided an additional assistant at an $1800 salary, but this was held up by the governor. Milton J. Ferguson reported that the appropriation for the California State Library, which was cut one-third four years ago—from $300,000 to $200,000, has this year been restored to $300,000. A new building is being built for which more money will be needed and this will be provided from the emergency fund. In Maryland, Joseph L. Wheeler has provided quarters for the Commission in the Enoch Pratt Free Library, which releases the sum formerly paid for rent for the employment of a trained executive. Adelene Pratt, the newly appointed secretary, was present and outlined briefly new plans for work. It was also reported that the Oregon State Library had received an increased appropriation. The question of what is a reasonable appropriation for state extension work was recommended to the Library Extension Committee for investigation.

Pensions vs. Salaries

To the Editor of the LIBRARY JOURNAL:

I note that the American Library Association is going in for pensions. Let me ask if the members of the Association realize that the promotion of pensions means the diversion of energy from the subject of increase of salaries? Beyond question, when pensions do most flourish, then salaries do most stand still.

What the American Library Association should do is not to urge pensions; but nationwide publicity on what librarians in general are doing and could do if they were better paid and more freely supplied with money.

A few of the many thousand of dollars that have been spent by the A.L.A. in recent years on footless reports, would have hired some of the best talent in the country to write articles which would be widely read, on the really excellent features of libraries of all kinds, and on the absolute necessity for the increase of salaries of those who work in them, if their efficiency is to be still further increased.

JOHN COTTON DANA,
Newark (N. J.) Public Library.

A French View of American Libraries

DEMOCRATIZATION of the book in the the United States has been carried to a point undreamed of in France, according to Edouard Champion, publisher of the *Revue des Bibliothèques,* in his brochure *Le Livre aux Etats-Unis,* reprinted from the *Revue des Deux Mondes* for May 15 and June 1. The book here is not in the same degree as in France an individual thing jealously guarded and bound according to one's own taste and not according to that of one's neighbor; it is, above all, a collective thing purchased as a group and utilized as a group. Americans think and act best when they think and act in common, says M. Champion; therefore they buy their books in common, or rather delegate to one of them—their librarian—the task of buying books which will please them. Scholarly in only a slight degree, they have greatly developed library technique, which is to say the most practical and modern means to put at the disposal of a whole community a collection of books chosen in the last analysis by the community itself and in fulfillment of its needs as well as its desires.

The Americans are proud of their libraries, and they have reason to be. The municipal library, and particularly the lending department, seem most admirable to M. Champion, and librarians will enjoy the picture of the store keeper, the sales clerk and the stenographer reading the new book advertisements in the street cars and asking for the books of their choice at the nearest branch library, which hastens to buy from one to twenty copies of these titles according to the demand. Truly book borrowing is a pleasure, he remarks elsewhere, especially as the library personnel is uniformly courteous and obliging.

The American child enters into the scheme of things in American libraries, as it could never do in France. In France, little attention is paid to children, at least so long as they remain children. Interest is felt only in the older individual which is slowly developing in the child, a development which adults spare no pains to hasten. Little effort is made to understand the child or to comprehend his world as it represents itself to him. In the United States the child is king from the Atlantic to the Pacific, and his elders are satisfied that he should remain a child. As he is not overburdened with work at school and no home tasks are imposed upon him, many marvellous hours of leisure remain to him, many of which he spends at the library, where he finds food to his taste, and food which he can carry away to his own house. The entire organization of the library converges on the loan of books for use in the home. And home use has for a corollary free access to the shelves.

The principles of standardization and cooperation observed in the other great division of American libraries, the university libraries, also made their impression on M. Champion. A professor in one university unable to find a book in his own university library can locate a copy in another library thru the union catalog, and he usually need only ask for the book to have it delivered to him thru inter-library exchange. American scholarship is admirably served by a system so astonishingly practical.

McGill University Library School

FOR the first time a winter course under the auspices of a Canadian university will be offered at McGill University, Montreal, beginning in October. An instructor in library administration and a reviser and secretary were still to be appointed at the time of publication of the library school's *Announcement* for 1927-28, but the required and elective courses are fully outlined. The fees for the year amount to $260, of which $150 is required for tuition and $75 for a spring trip to New York.

Plans for a sessional library school at McGill University were made in the spring of 1904 by C. H. Gould, then librarian, in consultation with Melvil Dewey, director of the New York State Library School at Albany. In order to lose no time, a summer course was provided for that year, thus constituting the first library school in Canada. Owing to limited funds, the winter course could not then be provided, and the summer course was repeated in 1905-1911, 1913-1914, 1920-1924, and 1926. In 1921 the university librarian again proposed the establishment of a sessional course, and this was approved by the Corporation in the same year and by the Governors early in 1922. The realization of these plans was made possible by the cooperation of the Board of Education for Librarianship of the American Library Association and the Carnegie Corporation with McGill University. The faculty for the winter course, as constituted at the time of the *Announcement*, comprised Gerhard R. Lomer, director of the school and professor of library administration, and Mary Duncan Carter, assistant professor of library administration. A minimum of one year of college work and two months' practical experience is required for admission to the school.

The Toronto Conference–II

Reports of A.L.A. Section and Round Table Meetings and Those of Other National Associations

Canadian Library Association

THE 1927 meeting of the American Library Association in Toronto was, very fittingly, made the occasion for bringing the librarians and library workers of Canada into a closer relationship than had been possible in the past. Even had nothing more been done than to hold the two all-Canadian sessions the results would have been of importance, for these two gatherings of the A. L. A. week made for a wider acquaintance among the librarians of the Dominion while the papers and addresses combined to present an admirable survey of the library situation in Canada. More than this was accomplished, however, for at the second of the all-Canadian meetings definite steps were taken towards the formation of a Canadian body, to work in closest relations with both the American Library Association and the British Library Association while taking as its own sphere of activities those special problems which belong to Canada and which its own people can best handle.

It was made very clear by the speakers that there was no intention of organizing a rival for the American Library Association. The relations between the Canadian libraries and the A. L. A. have ever been of the friendliest character. The Canadian libraries have received very great assistance from the organization of the A. L. A. and will, it is hoped, continue to retain their present connection by membership in the A. L. A. and participation in the varied work of its committees. Nevertheless there are matters of peculiar Canadian character, with which the A. L. A. is not well able to deal, and there are certain things that, in self respect, Canadian libraries should do for themselves and these, it was argued, should be handled by an organization of the Canadian libraries.

The spirit of the two Canadian sessions was most interesting and inspiring. There was pride in the fact that Canada was host to the great international A. L. A., that it was host in the year that marked the Jubilee of the Confederation and that a great Canadian in the person of Dr. George H. Locke was the president of the Association in that historic year. There was more than this, however, to stir the imagination, for at no time previously have so many Canadian librarians, representative of practically every province in the Dominion, been brought together. The chief speakers at the second session came from British Columbia and New Brunswick respectively, almost the extremes in distances within the Dominion.

The Tuesday meeting was really preliminary to that of Friday. Under the chairmanship of Miss Mary J. L. Black, of Fort William, Ont., representative librarians from all parts of the Dominion gave brief surveys of the situation in their respective provinces, Miss Dunham, of Kitchener, for Ontario; Miss E. M. A. Vaughan, of St. John, for the Maritime Provinces; Miss Margaret Clay and Mr. Herbert Killam, for British Columbia; Mr. J. R. C. Honeyman for Saskatchewan; Mr. J. H. McCarthy for Manitoba; Mr. D. A. Cameron for Alberta and others. What was made plain was that while outside of Ontario there was limited library provision, in every province there was a desire to extend library work, and in some provinces, British Columbia for example, a most enterprising spirit was manifest. The idea of extension was strongly stressed by Miss Black as chairman and before the meeting adjourned Mr. C. B. Lester, Secretary of the Wisconsin Library Commission, who was present, spoke briefly on this subject.

The Friday session was presided over by Professor Fred Landon, librarian of the University of Western Ontario, and president of the Ontario Library Association. With upwards of one hundred and fifty Canadian librarians present, this meeting was noteworthy for its spirit of enthusiasm and the despatch with which business was transacted.

Miss E. M. A. Vaughan, of the Saint John Public Library, who had been one of the speakers at the earlier session, reviewed in greater detail, the general library situation in the Maritimes and made it quite clear that there was a vast field for effort and enterprise in the most Eastern part of the Dominion.*

* This paper was printed in full in the LIBRARY JOURNAL for July, forming one of a series of articles on the libraries of the various Canadian provinces which have appeared during the spring and early summer.

Miss Vaughan was followed by Miss Helen Stewart, formerly of British Columbia and well in touch with the situation on the Pacific Coast of Canada. "The one important thing," said Miss Stewart, "is that we should break down the barriers and feel that we are all a part of a great movement. We have been sorry for ourselves and have felt like crying out that 'I only am left to bear the burden of responsibility' because of the distances we have heard so much about. But there are, I think, some mental distances which meetings of this kind are going to bridge. We fail to realize that as one profession we should be shoulder to shoulder with other professions and should get their philosophy as they may get ours. A conference of this kind helps build interest, makes us see the next step beyond the pioneer stage. We should be well equipped with tools shaped to our hands and join with other expert workers in our efforts towards the goal which is the highest."

Mr. John Ridington, librarian of the University of British Columbia, brought the meeting definitely to its climax when, at the conclusion of a most carefully reasoned address on the general library situation in Canada, he proposed a resolution calling for the organization of the librarians and library workers of Canada "for the promotion and furtherance of library service thruout the Dominion" with the fullest and most active co-operation with both the American Library Association and the British Library Association. As defined in Mr. Ridington's motion, which was seconded by Dr. George H. Locke, of Toronto, the aims and methods in view were stated as follows: "The promotion and furtherance of library service thruout the Dominion by public education as to the value and need of libraries; by co-operation between existing libraries and library organizations in Canada and elsewhere; by investigation and demonstration of library work and methods in general, and in particular as to those problems that are characteristic of and peculiar to Canadian libraries as such; by the holding of conferences, institutes and public meetings for the interchange of professional information; for the promotion of effective library legislation; by the compilation of material, the publication of which will be of value to librarians and libraries and will assist in the extension of the library movement thruout all the provinces of Canada, and by such other means as may from time to time be thought advisable in order to promote the same."

Mr. Ridington's resolution, the purport of which is given above, was carried by a standing vote which was unanimous. In order that action might be taken forthwith to work out the details of organization, etc., Dr. Locke moved that Professor Landon be chairman of a temporary committee of five whom he should name. Dr. Locke offered the services of a secretary from his own staff.

The details of the new Canadian body will be worked out by correspondence between the members of the committee during the next few months. It is rather generally felt that as the chief problem of library extension in Canada is in the west that the first permanent chairman should come from that section of the Dominion. The new organization has been started in a modest way and with modest aims. That there is a field for its activities was evidenced on the very afternoon of its organization when a committee of Canadian librarians met with representatives of the Dominion government to confer on the hitherto vexing question of the distribution of government publications and were able to make definite headway in their relations with the department of the King's Printer and the distribution offices at Ottawa. It is in dealing with matters of such distinctly Canadian character as this that the Canadian organization will probably find its chief activities, for some time at least.

A third Canadian function which had a relation to the other gatherings was a Canadian breakfast, held on Friday in the Great Hall of Hart House, which, altho called hurriedly, brought out an almost one hundred per cent representation of the Canadian librarians at the A. L. A.

FRED LANDON, *Chairman.*

Bibliographical Society of America

THE Bibliographical Society of America met at a joint session with the college and reference section Wednesday afternoon, June 22nd, at Victoria College. President H. H. B. Meyer who was in the chair gave some statements about the work of the Society. To these Mr. Lydenberg added some announcements. The chief items of interest are: The first part of the completion of Sabin's *Dictionary of Books Relating to America* has gone to press. This carries the work thru John Smith. The *Papers* of the Bibliographical Society of America for 1925 are in galley proof. The incorporation of the Society has been accomplished. The new constitution was submitted by the committee, was read, and will be sent to members for final action in December. The Society also urged the resumption of the plan for printing cards for photostat copies of manuscripts in American libraries.

The general subject of the meeting was Canadian bibliography. Two papers were read and these with others to be presented later will form, it is hoped, a handbook of Canadian bibliography. Hon. R. L. Reid, K.C., sent a paper on the bibliography of the Canadian Pacific Northwest. In this Mr. Reid divided the field and

gave statements as to where material for each part of the history could be secured and gave comments on the leading books. Professor R. G. Trotter of Queen's University gave a paper on the bibliography of Canadian Constitutional History. He indicated that there had been an increasing interest in Canadian history and constitution, outlined the field, and then mentioned the sources for the study of it.

AUGUSTUS H. SHEARER, *Secretary*.

Special Libraries Association

THREE general sessions of the convention were held on the mornings of June 20, 21 and 22, while the afternoons were reserved for meetings of the individual groups,—Newspaper, Financial, Commercial-Technical, and Insurance—each with its own special program.

A business session preceded the first general session, June 20, at which were presented the reports of the officers, the standing committees the editor of *Special Libraries*, the chairmen of the individual groups, and the presidents of the local and affiliated societies. Greetings from the Association of Special Libraries and Information Bureaux of Great Britain were presented by Dr. E. E. Lowe, of Leicester, England.

The report of the secretary, Rose L. Vormelker, called attention especially to the large number of letters received requiring special research and carefully prepared replies. The letters were largely from business organizations requesting information concerning the Association and its publications, asking advice on starting or reorganizing libraries, requesting special classification schemes, or bibliographies on certain subjects. The need for a paid secretary at a central office was reiterated.

In the treasurer's report was noted especially the returns from the sale of the Association's publications, including the bibliographies, $250 having been received from the bibliography on illumination, and over $300 from that on rubber.

H. O. Brigham, as editor of *Special Libraries*, reported a most successful year, with the publication of many worth-while articles, and a large increase in paid advertising. Altho relinquishing the editorship for the coming year, Mr. Brigham agreed to continue his work as business manager.

LOCAL ASSOCIATIONS.

The reports of the presidents of the local and affiliated societies showed a wide variety of activities and membership. Several associations reported publication, either completed or in process, of local special library directories, and union lists of periodicals in local libraries. Several of the associations have active employment or registration committees, maintaining files of names of applicants for positions, and filling with much success vacancies in firms which apply to them.

The New York Special Libraries Association, the largest local organization, has a membership of 332, with several active committees and seven individual groups. The Special Libraries Association of Boston has 191, and it has an Educational Committee which has held classes in cataloging and classification once a week for twelve weeks under an able teacher.

Interesting reports were received also from the Special Libraries Council of Philadelphia and Vicinity, the Pittsburgh Special Libraries Association, the Cleveland Chapter, the Illinois Chapter, the Special Libraries Association of San Francisco, and the Special Libraries Association of Southern California. An incipient chapter at Cincinnati was also reported.

COMMITTEES.

The Committee on Classification, Louise Keller, chairman, reported several new accessions to its collection of literature on the subject—a bibliography of classifications of forestry literature, from the library of the U. S. Department of Agriculture; "Classification and Cataloging of Local Collections," by James Ormerod, of Derby, England (See L. J., 52:93-94); a classification for a life insurance library from the Life Insurance Sales Research Bureau; "Classification of Office Records and Correspondence," by Charles F. Woods, Riverside, Calif.; the classification of the library of the Boston Elevated Railway; and a classification for forestry literature, prepared by the faculty of the Yale Forest School. Demands for loans from the collection were met as far as possible.

The Committee on Library Exhibits, Alma C. Mitchell, chairman, reported three library exhibits during the year: one at Detroit in conjunction with the 15th annual Safety Exhibit, Mary B. Day in charge; the Illinois Chapter at the Power Show in Chicago; and a third at the Women's World's Fair at Chicago under the auspices of the Chicago Library Club. Arrangements have been made for a library exhibit at the convention of the American Electric Railway Association at Cleveland, in October.

The Joint Committee on Indexing Legislation consisting of representatives of the American Association of Law Libraries, the National Association of State Libraries and the Special Libraries Association, has taken active interest in forwarding the passage of legislation in Congress providing for an index of state laws. The legislation was passed.

The Methods Committee reported the use that

has been made during the past year of the mass of material on this subject already collected. It may be borrowed by sending requests to Miss Rankin, Municipal Library, New York City. Members were urged to send in new material to the committee. Originally it was the plan to use this material in the preparation of a *Manual of Special Libraries Methods*, but since the writing of textbooks has been undertaken by the Board of Education for Librarianship of the A. L. A. under the supervision of Dr. W. W. Charters, this material will probably be turned over ultimately to Dr. Charters to use as his committee sees fit. Reports of the publications of the Association and its groups are summarized elsewhere in this issue.

The report of the Committee on Training was considered a very important one, and too detailed to be covered adequately by the brief digest necessary here. It is hoped that it may be published in full elsewhere. It is felt that the time has come when some kind of standard for special librarians might be set. The academic standards for a special librarian should be as high as for all librarians, and as high as those established for most professions and for business callings. A combination of three years of academic and one year of professional work is being accepted usually as meeting the requirements for most professions and for business, and may be considered a reasonable minimum to adopt at the present time.

It would be advantageous if the special libraries course were given in a university having a business administration school so as to provide desirable electives. Pre-professional preparation, and the minimum standards for a curriculum in special library work are considered, and two suggested alternative courses of study are described with much detail.

General Sessions.

Brief addresses of welcome at the opening session June 20 were delivered by Mr. F. A. Robertson, of the Hydro-Electric Power Commission of Ontario, as chairman of the Local Committee; by Mr. Hathaway, who ably represented His Worship the Mayor of Toronto, Mr. Thomas Foster; W. O. Carson, Inspector of Public Libraries for the Province of Ontario; T. W. Banton, chairman of the Public Library Board of Toronto; and Hector Charlesworth, editor of the *Toronto Saturday Night*, who gave the address of welcome on behalf of Canada. Margaret Withington most admirably responded to these addresses of welcome on behalf of the Association.

The President, Francis E. Cady, reviewed the outstanding points of interest which have concerned the Association since its last annual meeting. The time seemed right to press for action two projects, (1) closer affiliation between the local and the national association, and (2) better and larger financing. In the case of almost all of the local associations there has now been established a relationship whereby every member of a local becomes a member of the national association and all payments of dues will be made to the national treasurer, who will refund to the local association the funds needed on a budget basis.

The need for more funds is very pressing. The advantages of a central office with a paid secretary have been obvious for years. The maintenance of the official journal on the high plane already established is continually hampered for lack of funds. It was therefore decided to adopt the following schedule of membership dues: institutional membership, $15.00; individual membership, $5.00; associate membership, $1.00. The success of this action is still in question, various elements having combined to prevent a clear understanding of the situation.

The practical and inspiring addresses and discussions at the second general session centered around the theme: "Contacts—their value to special libraries, and how to make them with outside business interest, trade associations, and other organized bodies." The address by Mary Louise Alexander, president of the New York Special Libraries Association, on "The Great Need of Contacts in Special Library Work," was enthusiastically received, and it is hoped that the address may be published in full later.

The paper prepared by Marian C. Manley of the Business Branch, Newark Public Library, on "How the Business Branch of a Public Library Develops Contacts," was read by Miss Grace Aikenhead. Dr. D. M. Marvin, economist, Royal Bank of Canada, in his address on "The Relation of the Library and Research Departments to the Bank," gave an interesting account of the wide field of interests about which such a system as the Royal Bank, with its seven hundred branches in Canada and other branches scattered thruout the world, must be informed, and the sources from which the necessary information is obtained. Attention was called to the large research information service provided by the Natural Resources Intelligence Service of Canada.

Annie Rankin, of the John Rylands Library, Manchester, Eng., at this session presented the best wishes for the success of this conference of Dr. Henry Guppy, librarian of the John Rylands Library, and president of the British Library Association.

At the very enjoyable dinner meeting Tuesday evening, Mr. D. N. Handy acting as toastmaster, a missionary touch was given to the occasion by the speeches of representatives of

several local chapters showing the benefits to be derived by the formation of local associations. Brief addresses were made also by one or two of the Canadian guests, and by the president, Mr. Cody.

At the third general session Robert Smitley gave an informal address on the subject of business literature. Copies of a pamphlet which he had prepared giving a short résumé of such books as have been chosen for purchase in the general field of business, and copies of a larger bibliography published by him in 1925, were distributed to those present. In 1918 there were about twelve hundred to fifteen hundred books dealing specifically with general business subjects. Now, production has reached a condition where about four thousand books a year are published directly on the general subject and its practices. The formation of the Business Historical Society and its objectives were discussed at some length. The need for co-operation regarding definition or terminology in connection with business subjects was stressed. Mr. Smitley replied to several questions asked in regard to literature on various subjects, such as investment trusts, real estate mortgage bonds, etc.

Officers elected: President, Francis N. Cady, Nela Research Laboratory, Cleveland; vice-presidents, Mary Louise Alexander, Barton, Durstine & Osborn, New York, and Caroline Saltenmayer, Rapid Transit Co., Phildaelphia; secretary-treasurer, Rose L. Vormelker, White Motor Co., Cleveland.

American Library Institute

THE American Library Institute held an open meeting at Toronto on June 23 and a business session luncheon on June 24.

The program of the open meeting consisted of Dr. Bostwick's presidential address, "The Educational Functions of a Public Library," and papers by James Thayer Gerould on "The Arrangement of Catalog Entries under the League of Nations;" by Frank K. Walter on "The Place for an Introductory Text Book and Bibliographical Studies;" by Henry B. Van Hoesen and J. Douglas Brown on "The Adaptability of the Library of Congress Classification to a Library of Industrial Relations."

In discussing Dr. Bostwick's address, printed elsewhere in this number, Dr. Hill agreed that the asociation of library schools with the universities tended to break the close contact which should exist between them and public libraries, and suggested that Dr. Bostwick's paper be called to the attention of the A. L. A. Professional Training Section.

Dr. Bostwick, in reply to a question from Mr. Ranck, said that he would not necessarily exclude the teaching of books in the library, but that the schools have the machinery for this work.

Mr. Gerould stated his experience, that university libraries find that the library school graduates have not been trained for the peculiarities of university libraries, and his opinion that every library, whether public or university, must have its own individual peculiarities and must, therefore, continue for its own staff the training begun in a library school.

Mr. Hicks criticised Dr. Bostwick's paper as neglecting the present tendency of teaching methods away from the formal toward the library method, the professor working along with the students in conferences, the encouragement of independent reading, etc., and Mr. Walter added that both extremes of the teaching method are now in use.

Mr. Gerould's paper referred to a forthcoming article by Dr. Johannes Mattern on the method of handling the League of Nations material at Johns Hopkins University, and called attention to the exhibit and *Bulletin* of the Library of Congress describing their very satisfactory systems of cataloging and arrangement. The experiment at Princeton, which he reported, consists in substituting for a strict author arrangement (by which reports on a given topic would be separated according as the corporate author was the League as a whole, council, the assembly, or any one of several committees) a topical arrangement under the League as author, disregarding that portion of the corporate entry following *League of Nations*. This arrangement obviates the necessity of reading all the entries under the League of Nations for material on a given subject and saves the making and filing of subject cards.

In the discussion Mr. Lydenberg said that the New York Public Library system was roughly like that at Princeton. Mr. Walter said that the University of Minnesota had three or four different plans under consideration. Mr. Severance said that the University of Missouri filed according to the complete author entries, with additional cards under subject. Mr. Hicks described some differences in the classification of League of Nations material at Columbia Law Library and said that they were considering a different file of cards in numerical order. Mr. Gerould and Mr. Van Hoesen discussed the applicability of a similar topical arrangement of cards now filed alphabetically under U. S. Laws, statutes, etc., and of cards representing publications of other government bodies.

Mr. Van Hoesen's paper described an experiment of classifying the two hundred subject headings used in the Industrial Relations Sections of the Princeton University Library, according to the Library of Congress schedule. It was found that:

(1) Most of the topics would fall in the Labor classification (HR 4801-8940).

(2) Certain of the headings in this section should be sub-divided or explicitly interpreted to include the specific subjects—for example, under *Hours* (HD 5106) add: *Holidays, Leave of absence, Time clocks, Vacation;* under *Safety devices* (HD 7273) add: *Accident prevention, Bulletin Board, Eyesight conservation, Safety committee, Safety department, Safety standards,* etc.

(3) Certain Industrial Relations topics normally classified in other H divisions should be so classified even in a special collection of Industrial Relations—for example, Trade union banks in HG, Employees stock ownership in HG (4527?) etc.

(4) A number of additions, with new numbers, should be made, particularly (a) in HD 2351ff., a scheme covering details of industrial organization and administration similar to the scheme for business organization and administration in HF 5500ff., (b) in HD 6453ff., *Cooperative housing* and *Educational activities of trade unions;* (c) in HD 6941ff. we should follow the scheme used in the Bureau of Labor libraries; etc.

In the discussion Mr. Henry described an experiment in the filing of similar material, clippings, etc. according to the Library of Congress schedule, adding that the system was abandoned in favor of a subject file. This, however, did not take into consideration the eventual binding and shelving of such material.

Mr. Martel sent in a later comment, expressing the opinion that the suggested additions, subdivisions, headings and references might be absorbed in the Library of Congress schedule with little or no change, and that whether or not the Library of Congress should find it possible to assimilate the whole, letter by letter as it stands, it represented a kind of collaboration which was much appreciated by the Library of Congress.

A later written comment was also made by Henry E. Bliss, calling attention to the problem raised of "the dispersion of related materials that may be treated from more than one point of view; for instance such subjects as *Fire prevention, Vocational guidance, First aid,* may—or should—be subordinated under other or broader subjects than *Industrial relations* as defined."

At the conclusion of the program, Mr. Severance reported upon the replies he had received in response to the circular of his remarks made at the Atlantic City meeting on topics of library research. He remarked that research is in the air, that there are certain foundations, appropriations, fellowships, etc. available and that there are topics needing research. He suggested that the Institute appoint a committee who would bring together this information for the benefit of librarians interested in doing research work. Mr. Walter advocated this as an appropriate undertaking for the Institute. Mr. H. F. Brigham and Miss Donnelly reported respectively that the A. L. A. curriculum committee and the Association of American Library Schools were collecting similar information. Attention was also called to the list of fellowships recently published in the A. L. A. *Bulletin* and elsewhere.

At the business meeting on the 24th, in connection with a discussion of filling the vacant fellowships in the Institute, several names were informally nominated for consideration by the board.

Mr. Van Hoesen proposed that the Institute undertake a summer institute of bibliography and library science along the lines of the Politics Institute conducted at Williamstown and the Chemical Institute conducted by the American Chemical Society at Pennsylvania State College. He suggested that the program of such an institute might consist of public lectures, given by an expert of international reputation, on the general field, history and tendencies of a given subject—for example, international law and relations or the natural sciences—and that the group discussions be concerned with the corresponding subject bibliography. Mr. Milam suggested the topic International relations of libraries, and said that A. L. A. Headquarters had felt the need of an institute to follow immediately upon the annual meetings of the A. L. A. It was voted to ask the Board to formulate and submit a plan for the consideration of the fellows.

On motion of Mr. Severance, it was resolved that the President appoint a committee of three for the promotion of research, for the tabulation of opportunities, topics of research, and of research in progress.

Motion by Mr. Meyer that the next meeting of the Institute be held in conjunction with the Bibliographical Society in Washington was laid on the table pending the fixing of the date of the Washington meeting.

Mr. Meyer's proposal that the name, "American Library Institute" be changed to "American Institute for Library Research," in order to distinguish the activities of the organization from those of teachers' institutes and the like, was op-

posed by Miss Ahern, on the ground that there was not sufficient reason for change; by Dr. Bostwick on the ground that it would limit the scope of the organization; by Mr. Ranck on the ground that the activities of the Institute should be made to define its scope. Mr. Ranck further pointed out some questions deserving attention from the A. L. I., *e. g.* the library attitude toward radical literature, propaganda, etc.

Mr. Gerould led a discussion as to the proper body to decide upon and finance bibliographical projects—whether it should be the Bibliographical Society or the American Library Association. Mr. Milam reported from a meeting of the Executive Board of the A. L. A. that the Board had deplored the inevitable tendency to give more consideration to the practical needs of the public libraries than to problems of research and of research libraries, had made a very liberal estimate of the amount of money which could well be used for research when available and was prepared to turn over to the Bibliographical Society or other organizations money available for such projects.

Dr. Richardson called attention to the distinction which should be kept in mind between research and aids to research.

HENRY B. VAN HOESEN, *Secretary.*

National Association of State Libraries

FIVE sessions were held by the National Association of State Libraries during the Toronto conference, the first covening on Tuesday afternoon, June 21, in the Speaker's Reception room, Parliament Building, when an address of welcome was made by A. T. Wilgress, Legislative Librarian of Ontario, and response made by President Harrison J. Conant, State Librarian of Vermont.

Seventeen American states, Alberta and Newfoundland were represented at the two round table sessions, which brought out much valuable information on what these states are doing in state library work. In view of the present plight of the Ohio State Library, the remarks of Herbert Hirshberg, the Ohio state librarian, were listened to with especial interest. The State Library, as has been reported in recent numbers of the LIBRARY JOURNAL, faces destruction thru the recent veto by the governor of its entire appropriation and the subsequent failure of the General Assembly to pass the appropriation over the veto. The statewide library service conducted by the library will cease at the same time.

Governor Donahey's plans for continuance of the state library service are apparently based upon a misconception of the functions of the library. He said in his veto message that he regretted that the state library appropriation had to be cut out, because of the lack of funds. The message went on to say that the state library historical books and manuscripts could or should be transferred to the Ohio Archaeological and Historical Society and other books sent to the state university for administration. When the impracticability of this plan was pointed out to him the governor in a later statement said that the traveling library books should be scattered in five or six state-supported schools and administered from those points in the state, failing to recognize the functions of the oranization work done by the state library with the public libraries of the state, as well as the direct mail service which has developed in Ohio in the last five years. He also said that the reference department of the state library (meaning the legislative work) should be continued in the state house, but failed to provide any money for the adminstration of that department, since he was under the impression that the department had a separate budget as it had when he was auditor and before the reorganization act of 1921 was passed.

The program was left virtually free of formally prepared papers to leave more time for the informal discussions which gave participants in the sessions and round tables an intimate acquaintance with the problems and practice of other state libraries. George S. Godard of Connecticut read a paper of "The Problem of Connecticut Records," and Henry S. Dunnack, state librarian of Maine, in his address on "Idols of an Unfurnished Mind," described some of the idols—mental delusions—and limitations which hamper the average man in his attainment of a complete life. Mr. Godard's paper unfolded the complexities of the public and quasi-public records and archives in Connecticut, and told how the problems they pose are being successfully solved thru the gradual voluntary assembling in the commodious and specially arranged and equipped state library building of official files and records not in current use. The fact that the laws which have been enacted from time to time as opportunity offered, under which these records are being centralized, arranged, indexed, and bound where necessary, are permissive, in nearly every case, rather than mandatory, has resulted in the best of feeling and heartiest co-operation between all parties concerned, he said. Connecticut began to take notice of the value of her early records and files as early as 1770. In 1819 it provided for the editing and publication of her Colonial Records from the earliest

period to the time of the Charter, 1662, and appointed J. Hammond Trumbull, the first regular, full time Connecticut state librarian, as the editor. The state early required clerks of courts and town clerks to have suitable safes or vaults in which to keep their records.

The A. L. A. Committee on Library Extension was represented at the Wednesday afternoon session by its chairman, Clarence B. Lester of the Wisconsin Free Library Commission, who said that the committee in its recently published report had tried to phrase its recommendations for extending library service in the broadest possible fashion so that each state can develop its work in the way best fitted to solve its individual problems. In the discussion that followed Mr. Dunnack described the highly unified work of library agencies in Maine, which operate under the direction of the state librarian. The library extension department has some 1200 traveling libraries, fifty volumes in each, which are sent into the remote towns. Half of the five hundred towns of the great county of Aroostook have libraries. The state library works thru the towns. Supervision by the state library is assured by the fact that it receives ten per cent of all the money the locality raises and an additional ten per cent from the state. Louis J. Bailey of Indiana has found it necessary to work thru a larger unit than the township, and the county seems to be that unit.

In either state or law library there should be a complete set of all the legislation concerning the country, whether by the legislature of the particular state or province or of other legislatures which have or have had jurisdiction over the territory of the state or province or any part of it, said the Honorable William Renwick Riddell, Justice of Appeal, Ontario, in a heartily applauded address made at the Thursday afternoon joint session with the American Association of Law Libraries. That any state or law library with any claim to completeness can consider its shelves with complacency without the English Statutes at Large passed his comprehension, said Justice Riddell.

Memorial sketches on two deceased members of the Association were read. It was voted to adopt these memorials and place them on the records and to cause a copy to be inscribed and forwarded to the family of the subjects of the memorials. Mr. Small of Iowa presented the memorial sketch of Maud Barker Cobb, the first woman to hold the office of state librarian or any other office in the State of Georgia, which was written by Ella M. Thornton, the present incumbent. Miss Watts presented the resolutions on the late Demarchus Clariton Brown, state librarian of Indiana.

Officers elected: President, Henry E. Dunnack, Louisiana; second vice-president, Mrs. Mary E. Frankhauser, Michigan; secretary-treasurer, Irma A. Watts, Pennsylvania Legislative Reference Bureau.

League of Library Commissions

REPORTS from the field and discussion of these reports took the place of formal papers on the program of the League of Library Commissions, which held two meetings during the Toronto conference of the A.L.A., on June 23 and 24. A business meeting held the first day was considered the adjourned annual meeting, since no midwinter meeting had been held. Amendments to the constitution approved at this meeting provide that organizations of national or state-wide influence interested in the promotion or upbuilding of libraries and library service may be admitted to membership by a two-thirds vote at any regular meeting. In accordance with this amendment, the American Association for Adult Education was elected to membership. Another amendment provides that the annual meeting shall be held at the time and place of the annual meeting of the American Library Association.

Julia W. Merrill, executive secretary of the A.L.A. Committee on Library Extension, reported on the distribution of the *Rural Library Service Handbook*. Out of an edition of 25,000, 12,000 have been distributed to members of the League, 5,500 have been distributed by the Committee, and 7,500 remain in stock. The question of printing a second edition was referred to the Executive Board. The possibility of printing county library posters which could be used in all states was discussed, and it was voted that the Publications Committee be authorized to take up the matter of preparing a number of posters which can be furnished in quantities at a nominal price.

The general theme of the second session was progress in library extension, and brief notes of progress reported are given on page 745 of this number.

Miss K. E. Overbury, librarian of the West Riding of Yorkshire, who had made many friends among members of the League in her tour across the country, said that the West Riding budget each year is submitted to the Education Committee, and that the establishment of county libraries in Great Britain had been stimulated by the grants of the Carnegie Trustees.

Officers were elected as follows: President,

Clarence B. Lester, Wisconsin; first vice-president, Mrs. Lillian B. Griggs, North Carolina; second vice-president, Herbert Killam, British Columbia; member of the executive board for three years, Louis J. Bailey, Indiana.

CLARA F. BALDWIN, *Secretary-Treasurer.*

A. L. A. Sections and Round Tables

Agricultural Libraries Section

AGRICULTURAL LIBRARIES SECTION was called to order at 4 p. m., June 20, by the secretary, Willard P. Lewis, librarian of the University of New Hampshire, in the absence of the chairman, Claribel R. Barnett, librarian of the U. S. Department of Agriculture. Zeliaette Troy, librarian of the Boyce Thompson Institute for Plant Research, Yonkers, New York, was appointed to act as secretary.

Mr. Lewis read a letter from Miss Barnett giving a brief history of the work of the Agricultural Libraries Section since its formation. She spoke of the increasing difficulty, with the growth of the A. L. A., of finding a time for the section meeting which would not conflict with other meetings of interest to agricultural librarians, and raised the question whether the section should be continued, suggesting that a committee be appointed to consider the question. "If the findings of the committee," she said, "should make it seem desirable to continue the Section, we can then go forward with greater assurance and make definite plans for future undertakings which will, it is hoped, accelerate even in a greater degree the development of agricultural library work. Moreover, the findings of the committee, if favorable to the continuance of the Section would no doubt disclose the lines of activity which it would be most profitable for the Section to undertake. The committee might also consider whether or not it would be best to continue to hold meetings annually or whether it would be better to go back to the original plan of biennial meetings." The discussion which followed indicated a desire on the part of those present to continue the section, but it was decided to postpone final consideration of the question until the 1928 meeting.

The general discussion of "extension" was opened by a paper on "What Agricultural Librarians Can Do to Further Library Extension" by Julia Wright Merrill, executive assistant, A. L. A. Committee on Library Extension. Miss Merrill said in part: "Agricultural librarians have both an opportunity and a responsibility in rural library extension, for they have a personal contact with rural leaders of the present, in the agricultural college faculty and staff of the extension service, and those of the future, in the student body.

"The A. L. A. thru its Committee on Library Extension, has set as its ultimate goal adequate public library service within easy reach of everyone. It believes that the county library, in most of the United States, can best give that service to rural people. But it also believes in the great need of state field work, state leadership, state direction toward that goal, and therefore in a strong state library extension agency in each state.

"The committee is laying a foundation, thru national publicity, contacts with national organizations, on which you can build. Then it is providing tools—county posters are displayed, small publications distributed. It is making a beginning in field work, going first to states without state library extension agencies.

"The state program must vary from state to state. But every state needs a program and unified effort on the part of all librarians, and others interested, toward its achievement. Nine states (outside of New England) are still without county library laws. In these states one item in a state program is obvious.

"The agricultural librarian can collect and study extension literature and be ready to make use of it. Long's *County Library Service*, the report of the Committee on Library Extension, and the publications of your own state library extension agency will help. Then there is the opportunity to show the books or give the smaller publications to rural leaders.

"The class in rural sociology ought to hear rural library service discussed, and a general talk to the whole student body will be of value. In New Mexico I spoke at a college assembly and I have never had a finer audience. Students in journalism in the New Mexico Agricultural and Mechanical College are now writing library publicity and helping the state movement along.

"The possibilities of exhibits at farmers' week or at short course time are many. In South Carolina, where there is no state library extension, the agricultural librarian is inviting a nearby county librarian, Miss Templeton, to come to farmers' week with her county book truck. Then broadcasting. What a chance to talk books!

"Studies of rural life are being made all over the country under the Purnell act. Could not some of these studies be directed toward showing a hunger for books, and the fine reading done by rural people when books are available? We have had the number of books in the rural home counted or their absence noted. City people would not like to be judged that way. I should

like to see a comparative study of reading tastes and pleasures and the reading done in a rural section which has county library service and in a similar section which has only far away state service, or no facilities at all."

Charles H. Brown, librarian of the Iowa State College, continued the discussion with a paper entitled "Opportunity of Agricultural Colleges for Library Extension" which will probably be printed later.

In the absence of Margery Bedinger, New Mexico State College of Agriculture and Mechanic Arts, her paper on agricultural librarians and library extension was read by Mr. Lewis. Miss Bedinger emphasized how the librarian in an agricultural college can spread the library idea by teaching books and the usefulness of a library to the students with whom she comes in contact, the student assistants on her staff and the students of journalism who find the library a source of news.

Mr. Lewis then read the results of a survey which he made on how library extension service is carried on by the various state university and college libraries. The facts brought out show how far we are from the danger of overstandardization.

After a discussion as to the advisability of holding a joint meeting with the state commission followed, the question: Are printed catalog cards for state experiment station publications needed or is it sufficient to rely upon the *Experiment Station Record* and the *Agricultural Index* for information in regard to these publications? was discussed, opinion being about evenly divided.

Mary G. Lacy, librarian of the Bureau of Agricultural Economics of the U. S. Department of Agriculture, rendered her second progress report, as chairman of the Committee on Co-operative Bibliographical Aid, on the co-operative indexing of the state official sources of agricultural statistics, giving a short history of the work. The matter was first presented to the Section at the Seattle meeting in 1926. The index of Alabama has been made, this state being undertaken first because it came first in the alphabet. The Oklahoma index is now ready for typing and mimeographing. Several people are working on the California index but the statistics of this state are many and varied and completion is not yet within view. Miss Lucia Haley's preliminary list of sources of agricultural and related statistics of the State of Oregon is so helpful that the Bureau at Washington will mimeograph it for wider distribution.

Catalog Section

THREE sessions, a general session, a large libraries' round table on extension of co-operative cataloging and a small libraries' round table on cataloging aid to small libraries by library extension agencies, state libraries, etc., were held by the Catalog Section.

General Session

The first session was held on June 21, Wilmer L. Hall, state library, Richmond, Va., chairman of the section, presiding.

The secretary-treasurer reported that the number of paid up members totalled 258, that seven regional groups had paid their dues, and that cash on hand June 20 totaled $202.16.

The report of the Committee on Formation of Regional Groups of Catalogers stated that no new groups had been organized during the year. Practically all groups which had held meetings this spring had considered the subject of the extension of co-operative cataloging and had sent their suggestions to the chairman of the Section to be used as desired in formulating the discussion at the A. L. A. Conference at Toronto.

A full statement in regard to a directory of catalogers was made by Eliza Lamb, chairman of Directory Committee. A motion that the directory be discontinued was withdrawn.

Margaret Mann as chairman of the A. L. A. Catalog Committee spoke of the work that had been accomplished during the year, mentioning the pamphlet on music, edited by Ruth Wallace, which had just been published, and the key for the transliteration of Armenian which Library of Congress is printing in card form. The Massachusetts Committee on work with foreigners had asked for a plan for co-operative cataloging of foreign books. This was being considered by the A. L. A. Catalog Committee, as well as some plan for printing D. C. numbers on L. C. cards. Miss Mann then spoke of the A. L. A. textbook on cataloging and classification. The book surveys the field of cataloging and sums up the facts of the subject. It is not a code of rules. The positive side of cataloging has been stressed, not the negative. She concluded by reading the twenty chapter headings.

Suggestions as to the form of issuing additions to and revisions of Library of Congress subject headings were made by David J. Haykin, State Library, Albany. He suggested, first, that it would be desirable to have a list of subject headings published with brief annotations defining the headings and establishing differences between synonymous headings; second, that it would be more satisfactory if the Library of Congress could issue its additions and revisions at frequent intervals on cards.

Officers elected: Willard P. Lewis, chairman; Cora Miltimore, secretary.

Abridged from the report of

ZELIAETTE TROY, *Acting Secretary.*

pamphlet form. If these were sent out each week or month on sheets, similar to the proof sheets, they could be used in the catalogers' official lists of headings. These suggestions provoked discussion as to the advisability of asking the Library of Congress to do any further work. Dr. Richardson was of the opinion that a suggestion like this might be helpful as a guide, and we should have no hesitation in offering it to the Library of Congress.

Round Table for Large Libraries

The second session discussed "Extension of Co-operative Cataloging."

"Co-operative Cataloging in the Field of American and Canadian History," by Nathan van Patten, Queens University Library, Kingston, Canada, was largely concerned with the bibliographical importance of co-operative cataloging, and was limited to a consideration of its application to the literature of American and Canadian history. Each co-operating agency would confine its efforts to books, pamphlets and journals published within its own state or province, adopting as standard the L. C. cards and following the cataloging practice of that library. The results of this work would be available to scholars in union catalogs at centers of research, in partial sets of cards devoted to specific phases of American history and in check-lists and bibliographies.

"The Extension of Co-operative Cataloging and General Library Co-operation," by Ernest Cushing Richardson reviewed the actual demands for extension now being made under four headings: (1) The extension of the published card system, (2) the extension of the Union Catalog, (3) co-operative subject cataloging, (4) co-operative analytical cataloging. Dr. Richardson reached the conclusion that "The present L. C. system with A. L. A. side support, moral, editorial and financial, looks at present like the only commonsense method."

Henry E. Bliss, associate librarian of the College of the City of New York, gave a paper entitled "More Adequate Co-operative Classifying and Cataloging," in which he showed, by means of carefully worked out statistics, that, with a thousand libraries subscribing from a minimum of $10 to a maximum of $1,000, on a service rating, a working capital would be furnished, and co-operative cataloging could be made to pay its own way. He suggested that for carrying on the work and for developing a standard classification, a "corps of twenty-five catalogers should be articulated with the present corps and service of the L. C. But, as co-operatively maintained it should be under the general direction of a standing committee of the A. L. A. with appointive power."

David J. Haykin, in "Some Problems and Possibilities of Co-operative Cataloging" brought out the difficulties experienced in cataloging books in the less known foreign languages and books on subjects requiring exact technical knowledge. He suggested that the cataloging of such books be allocated to the libraries best qualified to undertake the work; that the copy then be edited, printed, and distributed by one central bureau; and that this plan be carried out in close association with the Card Division of the Library of Congress.

"Co-operative Cataloging of Books in the Less Familiar Foreign Languages," by Frances R. Foote, Los Angeles Public Library, was a plea for co-operation between libraries rather than for the establishment of a central agency, "unless such an agency could be endowed for just such work." Some definite move should be made "to gather information as to the yearly number of foreign language books added in the large and medium sized libraries, the number in each language and the libraries which are either now equipped or would equip themselves to specialize and catalog for all in some one or more languages, if a co-operative plan could be agreed upon."

Ruth Wallace, Indianapolis Public Library, after outlining the difficulties encountered by the large library in cataloging books in type other than roman, suggested that libraries having such collections might furnish card copy, each library specializing, so that the greatest number of books would be provided for. Indianapolis, for example, might specialize in purchasing Bulgarian titles and providing card copy, which could go to a central agency, preferably the Library of Congress. She asked the question, "If thru lack of an appropriation the card Division of the Library of Congress cannot expand its service as needed, should the A. L. A. or the various subscribing libraries (as has been suggested) subsidize the work of the Division?"

"Experience and Methods with Card Orders," by Gertrude Forstall of the John Crerar Library was read in her absence by Grace Osgood Kelley, who also read a paper of her own on the need for co-operation in producing effective classification for libraries. In this she pointed out that the present systems of classification lag far behind our knowledge in many fields.

"The University of Chicago and Co-operative Cataloging" was the subject of a paper given by Eliza Lamb. After outlining the work in co-operative cataloging done by the University from 1913 to the present day, Miss Lamb concluded by submitting some suggestions on the expansion of present co-operative cataloging prepared by Mr. Hanson for presentation at the American Library Institute.

The meeting was then thrown open for discussion. It was suggested by Mr. Martel that catalogers who were really interested might volunteer to submit, at their own expense, titles which were perhaps unusual, first ascertaining that the books were not already in the Union Catalog. Thus in the course of a few years we would have a union catalog of rare books.

A motion was carried looking towards the appointment of a committee to consider and formulate a plan for co-operative cataloging.

Round Table for Small Libraries

At the third session held on Friday the subject was cataloging aid to small libraries by library extension agencies, state libraries, etc.

Dorothy A. Dingle, Toronto Public Library, gave the first paper entitled "Central Bureau Aid to Small Libraries, Its Possibilities and Limitations.' After making a survey of the five groups of libraries in the province of Ontario, with the Department of Education established as the central bureau in very direct communication with these libraries, she discussed direct and indirect aid given to the four hundred small libraries, enlarging on the possibilities of assistance thru a short-course library training school and thru a possible county library system.

"Cataloging Aid Given to Small Libraries in Massachusetts," by E. Louise Jones of the Massachusetts Division of Public Libraries gave an idea of the kind of help given to libraries of from 5,000 to 10,000 volumes, having only one librarian. An organizer is sent out who instructs the librarian in the rudiments of cataloging. The mechanical work of reorganizing is done by volunteer workers with the result that a new interest in the library is awakened in the community.

"The Catalog from the Standpoint of the User of the Small Public Library," by Frank L. Tolman, New York State Library Extension Division, humorously indicated methods of humanizing the catalog by means of poetry, maps and illustrations. He closed in a more serious vein by suggesting that our standpoint in reference to the cataloging of books needs careful revision, even to the extent of endeavoring to sell the value of the book to the public.

Charles B. Shaw, librarian of the North Carolina College for Women, in his paper on analytical entries for the small library, suggested that catalogers "reformulate on a generous scale the present niggardly policy toward analytics," suggesting further that "this body may bring to fruition schemes which will provide for the greatly extended publication of analytical entries." Subject heading work for small libraries was discussed by Edith Nichols Snow, Albany Public Library, who showed the need of a settled list of subject headings, and of a central agency to act as a transforming or revising agent for the small libraries using L. C. headings. This would be a step toward solving the problem for the small library.

The problem of how much cataloging is needed was dealt with in a paper in the form of recommendations for various sizes of libraries presented by Susan G. Akers, University of Wisconsin Library School, and read by the chairman. These recommendations called forth considerable discussion in regard to organizing a collection.

Minnie Earl Sears, editor of the H .W. Wilson Company's "Standard Catalog" series, was elected chairman and Eliza Lamb, head cataloger, Chicago University Library, secretary.

Winifred G. Barnstead, *Secretary.*

Children's Librarians' Section

THE Children's Librarians' Section held a joint meeting with the School Libraries Section on June 23, with Joseph L. Wheeler, A.L.A. vice-president, presiding. The general topic was reading for boys and girls, which was discussed from three angles: Reading without a purpose, reading with a purpose, and reading as a school subject.

"Reading Without a Purpose," by M. Ethel Bubb, assistant director of work with children in the Public Library of the District of Columbia, Washington, D. C., pointed out that "happy abandon to the printed page possible only to childhood and to culture." "Is it not," she queried, "our feeling for the magic of such abandon, our belief in a spell so real that we cannot bear that any child should miss the enchantment, which makes us as librarians choose to work among boys and girls? And is not the fostering of this capacity, the awakening of it, if latent, the drawing out and developing of it, at the very heart of children's work? 'Books will not yield to us so richly when we are older.' Such could well be our motto and our article of faith. To arouse, to pique, curiosity until print seems magic and the cover of every book to hide away some possible adventure, some experience, to help the child to discover the run of real books, this is our vocation and our pleasure. The faith, that 'What we acquire and learn to love when we are young stands by us thru life,' is our spur." In developing her theme she convinced her hearers that there is no danger that boys and girls, while reading "for love" will miss the best thoughts of the greatest writers, and that books of information, books as tools, cannot but be met during the years of formal schooling.

Louise P. Latimer, director of work with

children, Public Library of the District of Columbia, in discussing "Reading With a Purpose," said by way of introduction that she and the previous speaker in preparing their respective papers for this session had asked each other whether after all reading with a purpose and reading without a purpose are necessarily very different. "If there is a common denominator of deep interest the results are bound to be similar. . . . There are many possible ways of reading with a purpose—thru a prescribed course of study, perhaps, or with a certain object. . . . Reading with a purpose books may have, over and above pure enjoyment, certain by-products." Miss Latimer then discussed those books which have such by-products and enlarged upon the effect of interest in reading and the opportunity of the one who works with children to arouse and direct this interest. Of the workers themselves, "No one can continue to give out unless something is taken in. Enthusiasm is not transmitted unless it is genuinely felt. Those working with young people should be financially care-free, with a safe margin above fatigue and a margin above that where abide enthusiasm and the power to inspire. Be the library or school building ever so beautiful the inspiration for the child must come mainly from the librarian or the teacher and only from the enthusiastic one at that. . . ."

In the third paper, "The First 'R,'" Lucille F. Fargo, of the A.L.A. Board of Education for Librarianship, outlined the progress of reading from the standpoint of the teaching profession and asserted that educators are now concerned, not with the mechanics of reading, but with content, and that greater stress is laid upon individual and general reading than upon class work in literature. She concluded by pointing out that the school and the library have a common final objective—to develop the reading habit in boys and girls—and that there is work enough for each in his chosen field.

The awarding of the Newbery medal for the most distinguished contribution to American literature for children, is a pleasant annual function of the Section. As already announced in the JOURNAL, the award for the year 1926 went to Will James for his horse story, *Smoky*. The Medal was presented at the third general session, by Miss Latimer, chairman of the section, to Mr. William Copp of Copp, Clark and Co., Mr. James' Canadian publisher. Mr. James was unable to be present.

Officers for 1927-1928: Chairman, Annabel Porter, Public Library, Seattle, Washington; vice-chairman, Bernice W. Bell, Public Library, Louisville, Ky.; secretary, Eleanor A. Stanfield, Public Library, Hamilton, Ont.; treasurer, Helen F. Ingersoll, Public Library, Denver, Col.

RUTH ANNE OVERMAN, *Secretary*.

College and Reference Section

THE meetings of the College and Reference Section were held on June 21 and 22. The second meeting was a joint session with the Bibliographical Society of America and was conducted by the President of that Society, Mr. H. H. B. Meyer of the Library of Congress. This second session was wholly devoted to consideration of the bibliography of Canada and the various papers read will presumably be printed in the *Papers and Proceedings* of the Society, these together with some additional material to form a sort of handbook of Canadian bibliography.

At the earlier session, the business of the section was transacted and two papers read and discussed. Fred Landon, librarian of the University of Western Ontario, London, gave an interesting review of the bibliography of Canadian history and literature. He deplored the lack of any single comprehensive guide to this field of bibliography and gave the several sources that must be consulted instead. Among the titles particularly mentioned are *The Review of Historical Publications Relating to Canada* (1897-1918); *The Canadian Historical Review* (since 1919); and the annual list published in the *Canadian Annual Review* since 1901, which has been prepared by the Toronto Public Library since 1923.

Valuable reference sets especially for the history of Canada are: *The Makers of Canada* (now in revised form in its second edition); *The Chronicles of Canada;* and the valuable work in one volume *The Dictionary of Canadian Biography*, edited by W. S. Wallace, librarian of the University of Toronto, and recently published. He gave a most useful explanation of the Canadian official documents which will serve to make easier the work of the librarian from the United States who tries to make a collection in this field. Because of its bibliographic character this paper will be published by the Bibliographical Society of America along with those read at the joint session on the following day.

Adeline B. Zachert, director of School Libraries in the Department of Public Instruction of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, at the invitation of the section read a paper entitled, "The College or University as the Proper Ground for Preparation of School Librarians." As her suggestions were closely related to those of the professional training of librarians the discussion was led by two men who had had considerable experience with library schools, Frank K. Walter, formerly vice-director of the New York State Library School and now librarian of the University of Minnesota, and Charles H. Compton, assistant librarian of the St. Louis Public Library, which institution manages the

St. Louis Library School. These two could also speak from the standpoint of the University Library and Public Library respectively. Miss Zachert's paper is given in abstract elsewhere in this number.

In discussing the paper Mr. Walter stated at the outset that he considered the twelve semester hours of training set as a minimum as too low. He stated that he was not particularly strong for pedagogical subjects in any curriculum and wondered if teachers colleges or educational departments would be willing to waive some of these regular requirements in the case of those wishing to become teacher librarians. Cataloging, classification, bibliography and book selection are quite necessary even in the case of the school librarian. Standard lists are not always dependable and variations from any standard are often advisable. He admitted that library school curricula have become probably too fixed and that further study of demands which schools must supply will be necessary before conditions can be called satisfactory. Questions that naturally arise are: How many library courses are needed? Where are they to be given? How are they given now?

Mr. Compton joined with Mr. Walter in his belief that the training outlined by Miss Zachert would not be sufficient to insure proper conduct of our school libraries. Furthermore, judging by statistics published showing the status of the librarian and library workers in our teachers colleges, he would judge that few if any of these would be able to offer the proper training ground for school librarians. It would seem to be too early to make any definite pronouncement as to the proper way to meet the demand for better qualified school librarians, but he believes that setting too low a minimum would do much harm.

The question was raised concerning the exact meaning of "professional assistants" as used in the tables showing salaries received by workers in college and university libraries recently published in the A. L. A. *Bulletin*. A committee composed of Sidney B. Mitchell, Mr. Walter and Edith M. Coulter was appointed to consider this question.

The committee having to do with consideration of the Telford scheme of classification and remuneration of library positions so far as they concern college and university libraries, read a communication directed by it to the A. L. A. Council in which it urged that the council delay action until the midwinter meeting when the section aims to submit modified specifications for classified service in university libraries as a substitute for those given in the report. It was decided to continue the committee for the purpose stated.

James I. Wyer brought to the attention of the Section the fact that a text was being prepared by the committee on Curriculum Study on college and university libraries and another on school libraries. The Section voted that consideration of junior colleges be included in the text on school libraries and that teachers colleges be considered along with colleges and universities.

The Secretary brought attention to the fact that there is at present a balance of over $100 in the treasury and that expenditures are at present seldom more than $25 yearly. The question of investment of the greater part of the balance was considered a matter to be in the power of the Executive Committee.

Officers elected for the ensuing year are: Charles H. Brown, Iowa State College, Ames, chairman; James A. McMillen, Washington University, St. Louis, secretary; Nathan Van Patten, Queens University, Kingston, Ont., member of the executive committee.

JAMES A. MCMILLEN, *Secretary*.

County Library Section

FIRST MEETING

THE newly formed County Library Section under the presidency of Mildred G. Brown, librarian of the Camden County (N. J.) Free Library, opened its meeting with the election of officers: Chairman, Ethel I. Berry, director of the Hennepin (Minn.) County Library, and Edith L. Smith, librarian Morris County (N. J.) Free Library, secretary.

Julia C. Stockett, Stations Librarian, Library of Hawaii, read a paper on Hawaii's libraries.

Ruth Overbury, Yorkshire (England) county librarian, who remarked the Hawaiian libraries sounded like a mixture of Heaven and the Arabian nights, next outlined county library administration in England, as supported by a flat rate covering books and carriage, areas having more than this—such as local library quarters and service—being specially rated.

"The county library is not merely for rural areas, but to build up all libraries," said Frank L. Tolman, director of the Extension Division of the University of the State of New York, in his paper on county libraries in New York State. "Every development in county library service comes from the development of the great municipal libraries," said Mr. Tolman, and presented the New York City libraries as the greatest county library system in the world. Sufficient support is necessary, and New York will wait until this is at hand, and will "do a big thing in a big way."

EDITH L. SMITH, *Secretary*.

Lending Section

FICTION readers and the adolescent received the chief attention of the Lending Section, which met on June 21 and 22, with Mary J. L. Black of Fort William, Ontario, as chairman.

Grace Finney of the Washington (D. C.) Public Library, in her paper "The Humanity of the Fiction Reader" outlined the many opportunities for constructive aid which are open to the librarian working with this class, providing she is without prejudice and possesses the human qualities necessary to a complete understanding of all readers. Her closing remarks show well what the proper attitude to this large group should be: "The fiction reader needs no apology made in his behalf. His humanity is only another term for his weakness and his strength, his whimsicality and his lovableness. In analysing this humanity we may discover one of our own mistakes. We too often make our collection of books aspirational instead of inspirational. The reader is told to aspire to reading better literature instead of being helped to read it in order that he aspire to things of untold value."

Bernard K. Sandwell, Canadian poet and journalist, brought the viewpoint and ideas of an outsider on librarianship before the meeting in a humorous talk, which gave considerable food for thought. The public library's importance for him is summed up in this statement: "All that matters is that no single soul in the community who is truly hungry for a good book shall have to go without a good book because the community has failed to place it within his reach."

The importance and future of circulation work were discussed in a paper called "What is Ahead for the Circulation Assistant?" by Jennie M. Flexner of Louisville, author of the text *Circulation Work in Public Libraries.*

Annie C. Millar of Toronto who led a discussion on problems in work with adolescents, was followed by Carrie Scott of Indianapolis who read a paper prepared by Miss Catherine Bailey, School Division, Indianapolis, on the many and diverse contacts that library is making with the youth of the city. Jean Roos ended the discussion by a talk on her work in the Stevenson Room of the Cleveland Public Library, and told of concentrated and specialized work done in this room especially prepared for the intermediate boy and girl.

Officers elected: Chairman, Bessie Summersley, head of circulation, St. Louis Public Library; secretary, Ina T. Aulls, chief of circulation, Denver Public Library.

RUTH RUTZEN, *Secretary.*

Professional Training Section

THE Section met on Wednesday, June 22, with about one hundred and twenty-five present, Jennie M. Flexner in the chair. John S. Cleavinger was appointed secretary *pro tem.*

The chairman in introducing the first speaker defined the general subject of the program to be recent developments in professional education for librarianship. The accepting of only tested thought, accumulated, and constantly modified by new analyses and experiences, as the basis of progress and development in the modern world, has its direct application to methods in education for librarianship. In the tendency to test ideas before application lies the hope of improvement. The program had been planned to show some of the forward looking efforts which are being made to apply tested thought to this particular kind of education.

Dr. W. W. Charters of the A. L. A. Curriculum Study then discussed the preparation of professional textbooks. Dr. Charters explained that the occasionally expressed idea that the use of textbooks is obsolescent, is an incorrect one. Modern teaching involves the use of much varied material in different forms, and from many sources, but the use of this material is to supplement, rather than to supersede the basic textbook. Particularly is this true in giving instruction of a technical character to mature students who must cover an entire subject in a limited time. The advantages of the textbook as a means of presentation of a subject to such students were compared to those of other means —the lecture, the reading of references, and practice work—and the conclusion was drawn that the textbook method is at once the most efficient and the most thoro; by its use the time of class periods may be devoted to discussion and the development of thought on the part of the student.

The speaker then outlined the method of procedure followed by the A. L. A. Curriculum Study in the production of a textbook, and explained the respective parts played by the director, the staff, and the author in the gathering and arranging of material, and in the writing and preparation of the book from its inception to its final form.

A paper on the "Application of New Type Tests to Teaching in Library Schools," which had been prepared by Isabella K. Rhodes of the School of Library Service, Columbia University, was, in the absence of Miss Rhodes, read by the acting secretary. The use of the so-called new-type tests in subjects of library school instruction constituted one of the topics investigated and discussed at the 1926 Institute for Instructors in Library Science held at the University of Chicago, and the conclusions in Miss Rhodes'

paper were based on the experience of about a dozen instructors in eight library schools.

The new-type or short-answer question was distinguished from the "essay" or "discuss" type. The advantages of the short-answer type are most obvious in use with large classes. Successful use of the new-type examination involves the preparation of a large number (150-200) specific questions and the phrasing of each question in such a way as to admit of only one right or best answer. Four typical forms of question were described and illustrated: The True-false; Completion or Recall; Multiple choice or Best answer; and Matching. Among the advantages of the new-type examination were mentioned the following: Prevention of bluffing or substitution on the part of the student; Test, for the teacher, of the success of the teaching; Quick, accurate and fair scoring of papers, admitting the use of clerical help; Saving of time for the student; Simplification of the problem of expression for the foreign student; Usefulness in frequent brief tests or reviews. Altho not equally useful in all subects, it was found that the new-type test had been used in practically every subject in the library school curriculum; in subjects where it cannot cover the entire field it may be used in connection with problems of the traditional type.

The application of new-type tests to selection of students and staffs was then discussed by Dean William F. Russell, Teachers College, Columbia University. Dr. Russell said that in the past over-emphasis may have been placed on selection. A clear distinction based on tests must be made between what constitutes a good or a poor product. In the light of this, tests for entrance should seek out potential ability, rather than achievement. By careful trial of existing and new tests, gradually an effectual series of prognostic tests may be formulated. These may be useful not only in the selection of students, but also in the guidance of students in subjects for emphasis in their courses.

In the general discussion which followed these addresses, among the points made were: That textbooks should be prepared with the inexperienced, uninformed student in mind; that students can successfully prepare questions to be used in new-type examinations; that new-type tests are valuable in measuring ability to follow directions; that the term "new-type" is no longer accurate in defining examinations of this character. "Short answer" was suggested as a preferable term.

Henry B. Van Hoesen, Princeton University, was elected chairman, and Florence T. Blunt of Simmons College School of Library Science, secretary for the ensuing year.

Abridged from the report of

JOHN S. CLEAVINGER, *Acting Secretary.*

School Libraries Section

MEETINGS of the School Libraries Section were held June 21st and 22nd, with Nell Unger of the Department of Education, Albany, N. Y., presiding.

Those who are keeping up with modern teaching methods are glad to take suggestions from Dean William Russell, Teachers College, Columbia University, as given in his splendid talk. "Teaching is a process of changing the learner from what he is to what you want him to be," he said. The teacher must build on what the student is and what can be achieved. The performance is weak after knowledge is gained unless brought together under direction and moulded into definite achievement. Lecture work on the use of the library is not good unless put into effect.

Effie M. Munro of Normal School, Peterborough, Canada, told of the normal school libraries in Canada. To visit schools in Canada one must travel a distance from the east to the far West of the Dominion of some three and a half thousand miles. In Nova Scotia one finds one of the oldest normal schools in the Dominion founded about 1850 when Sir William Dawson was superintendent of the province. About the same time a normal school was founded in New Brunswick, but the library was organized only last year. There are 27 normal schools in Canada outside of the Province of Ontario, with seven in Ontario. These have libraries. It appears that there is some difference between the Canadian normal schools and those of the United States; the training at the Ontario schools is almost wholly professional, while in most of the normal schools in the United States both academic and professional training is given, besides many special courses in teacher-training, nothing corresponding to which is given in Canada.

Mary C. Richardson, of the Normal School at Geneseo, N. Y., gave her view of library service to children in the practice school in a normal school. In many normal schools even now no provision is made for the training of elementary school teachers with regard to a library. The fact that today school librarians are not alone in claiming that the elementary school needs a library is one of the most hopeful signs of the times. The report made by Dr. Russell on "The School Library Situation" illustrates this fact. Supt. Beveridge of Omaha crowns the whole with this statement: "The library is the largest single socializing influence in the school that teaches the academic side of the child's life."

"It is our aim that the library will be recognized by educational authorities and teachers as the foundation stone for making a life rather than a living," asserted Dorothy A. Thompson.

Department of Education of Ontario, in telling of school library development in Canada. The Rotary Club of Sydney has entirely financed the collection of 62 boxes of 25 books each used in Nova Scotia, and 67 more are in preparation. The Province of Quebec has one of the outstanding high school libraries in the country. It has a collection of six thousand volumes carefully cataloged and a full-time librarian. Now the government has become interested and will do its part. There are two school cars travelling thru districts in northern Ontario.

Mrs. Margaret D. Archibald, formerly of the Grove School in Toronto, in her paper on girls in their teens showed a sympathy and understanding with the factory worker whose mentality is two-thirds per cent normal. The latter will have the same instinctive tendencies as the normal girl, but her reasoning power will be that of her mental age. From observation and work with this group it seems advisable to give a story of simple phraseology, and not too long.

The second session was given up to papers by well-known librarians on their work of city supervision of school libraries. Most of these papers will appear in full in a later number.

Marion Lovis, supervisor of school libraries of Detroit, becomes chairman for next year. Helen M. Harris, of Smith-Cotton High School Library, Sedalia, Missouri, was elected secretary-treasurer.

Abridged from the report of

SYLVIA OAKLEY, *Secretary.*

Training Class Section

TESTS for applicants for admission to training classes were the subject of animated discussion at the meeting of the Training Class Section held in Baldwin House, Tuesday, June 21, with Carrie E. Scott as chairman.

Rena Reese of Denver in her paper "Practical Work for Training Class Students," gave a brief outline of the development of training classes and their methods and aims. She discussed the terminology used by the various libraries in describing the actual work in library routine which the students get in the course of training. The two terms most commonly used seem to be "practice work" and "practical work." Quoting from the directors of training classes in the large cities all over the country, the conclusion seemed to be that practical work, meaning actual work in a library doing the usual routine duties under supervision, with a report by the head of the department under whom the work was done as to the efficiency of the student, was the most generally accepted term and the definition of it. Miss Reese concluded with the plea that the reports on students be made as simple as possible, without unnecessary details, for long involved reports are a waste of time and energy when the whole question of a student's success or failure is summed up in the question "Would you care to have her in your department?" and in the answer to it.

Cerene Ohr, supervisor of branches of the Indianapolis Public Library, said that there is no comparison in the value to the student of practical work in a library under actual working conditions with the experience gained in the working out of theoretical problems, even tho they are based on actual questions which come up in the daily routine. In a training class a student is getting instruction for service in a definite place, under definite conditions, and the sooner she realizes the conditions the more valuable she will be to the library system. In the Indianapolis Public Library, not only is a report on each student required from the head of the department where she has done practical work but each student herself reports on the work she has done there, expressing herself freely as to her liking for that particular field of work. This plan has aided materially in placing students where they are best fitted to work well, for it is generally agreed that the most efficient work is done where the worker is happiest.

Dr. William F. Russell, Teachers College, Columbia University, whose subject was "Selective Tests in Choosing and Rating Applicants for Library Training Class Courses" threw a bomb into the meeting by announcing that in his opinion librarians talk too much about selection when they should spend more time in teaching and guiding new applicants. Our chief trouble in devising tests for selecting those who are to enter library work is that we have no definition of what is a good librarian. In business a man is successful if he gets the money but there is no such easy short cut in rating librarians. On the other hand the field of library work is so wide and has such a diversity of tasks that a person not fitted for one branch of service may do exceptional work in another. Tests should be used not so much for admittance to the work as for guidance into the right department of work, as children's work, reference work, the book order department, etc.

Agnes Greer conducted a round table discussion of training class problems. The discussion reverted to the subject of tests for applicants for library training. June Donnelly stressed the fact that where the number of students for training is limited necessarily by lack of space and equipment and the number of applicants is very great there must be some method of selection in the very beginning that those best qualified for the profession may be preferred, and those who are not particularly adapted for the work may

be weeded out before they have spent time and money in training for something in which they may fail to be successful. Dr. Russell was asked how he would select for a training class —not a library school—where space is limited, whether candidates should be accepted in the order of application or some test be applied. His reply was that first he would demand the reason for taking the course. There should be some more substantial reason than just that the candidate "likes books," or thinks the work is "clean" and "ladylike." Second, some form of intelligence test should be given, any of a dozen accepted forms might be used. Third, the school record should be consulted. Harriet Howe suggested that the training class would be a good place to begin to develop tests for applicants to the library profession as the training class prepares for the library system with which it is connected and has its products under observation as employees after the period of training is over.

Officers for the year 1927-28 are: Chairman, Agnes F. P. Greer, director of the training class of the Chicago Public Library; secretary-treasurer, Alice M. Dunlap, director of the training class of the Cincinnati Public Library.

FAITH L. ALLEN, *Secretary.*

Trustees Section

AT the meeting of the Trustees Section, held at Trinity College, Toronto, on Thursday, June 23, about fifty trustees from various libraries were present. The Hon. Justice Kelly of the Supreme Court of Toronto presided. Mr. Orra E. Monnette, trustee of the Los Angeles Public Library, and Mr. Ranck, on behalf of Mr. Johnson, trustee of the Grand Rapids Public Library, led the discussion of the duties and responsibilities of trustees.

At a dinner meeting the same evening an address was delivered by Hon. Martin Burrell, librarian of Federal Parliament, Ottawa, after which Mr. W. M. N. Jannenga of Cicero, Illinois, was elected chairman of the Section for the coming year, and Anna M. Bancroft of Hopedale, Mass., was elected secretary.

Round Tables

Art Reference

THE Art Reference Round Table held its fourth annual meeting at Toronto, June 24th, with Bessie H. Shepard of Cleveland presiding.

For the first time music was included among the arts discussed by the Round Table. The three speakers represented three different types of institutions, and each made a unique contribution.

Marian Comings, of the Burnham Library of Architecture of the Chicago Art Institute, read a paper on books for architects, analyzing the viewpoint of the architect, contrasting it with that of the layman. Yet, "the layman can hardly understand architecture until he has learned to study plan, elevation and interior from such documents as the architect himself uses." Miss Comings also discussed the methods of book selection in the Burnham Library of Architecture and the means of making material available to architects.

"Music from the library point of view" was the subject of a talk by Barbara Duncan, librarian of the Sibley Musical Library at the Eastman School of Music in Rochester. She emphasized the importance of musical training for the music librarian, and gave instances of the saving value of special knowledge, in discerning, for example, treasures among gift collections.

Georgia Diehl of Pasadena read the paper on art reference work in a western library, written by Lou Ward of Los Angeles, which described architecture and decorations of the inspiring new library building at Los Angeles in some detail, and told of the working of the departmental system in the art and music rooms, and the co-operation with the art and music activities of the city.

In the discussion following, the need for various new tools was brought out. Halsey W. Wilson spoke of the progress on the fine arts section of the *Standard Catalog* and asked for comments on the proposed costume index. There was discussion also of an index to art periodicals proposed by a committee of museum directors. It was voted that the incoming chairman appoint committees to assist in each of these projects.

Officers for the coming year are Gladys Caldwell, Los Angeles Public Library, chairman, and Annie Hornsby Calhoun, Seattle Public Library, secretary.

RUTH WILCOX, *Chairman.*

Library Buildings

LIBRARY Buildings Round Table had one session which was in the nature of a general discussion, altho three main topics were submitted for cnosideration.

The first topic, "Problems Involved in Enlarging Library Buildings," was discussed briefly by Milton J. Ferguson and Herbert S. Hirshberg. The opinon was expressed that it was practically as cheap to tear down the usual library buildings and re-build a new one, as to attempt to enlarge many existing library structures since they were not planned with enlargement in view. The advantage was emphasized of planning library buildings as units to permit of easy enlargement when this became necessary. Advantages were also cited in eliminat-

ing as many permanent walls in the interior of a library building as was possible, since the rearrangement of the space in many library buildings would meet the library's enlarged needs for many years without changing the library exterior walls.

The second topic, "Problems in Library Administration in Display Windows, Display Cases, Bulletin Boards, etc.," was introduced and discussed briefly by Walter L. Brown, of Buffalo. In the opinion of the speaker and of those prseent there are many advantages to libraries in having their windows face public thorofares and built sufficiently low so that those on the street can see the interior when they pass. Great value to the library in having display windows facing the street was also mentioned, and many present called attention to the increased use of books thru displayed books and book covers in such windows as well as for other display purposes. It was believed that those in charge of library displays should have a combined knowledge of books, with a knowledge of the psychology of advertising and sound publicity methods as well as an eye for artistic effects in display. Discouragement was also voiced towards having bulletin boards and displays in libraries which suggest a kindergarten rather than a library.

The final topic, "Humanizing the Library Interior," was handled by Dr. Arthur Bostwick, of St. Louis, whose paper will appear in a later number.

All topics and related topics were discussed generally.

Joseph L. Wheeler, librarian of the Enoch Pratt Free Library, Baltimore, Md., was elected chairman for the ensuing year.

CHALMERS HADLEY, *Chairman.*

Order and Book Section

AN array of middle-European book posters and a set of maps charting the Boston survey of book needs indicated the scope of the program of the Order and Book Selection Round Table which was held June 21st, with the chairman, Leta E. Adams, of Cleveland, presiding over an audience of more than five hundred.

Eleanor E. Ledbetter of Cleveland in her paper, "Buying Books in Nine Languages," made a most difficult task seem like a fairy table adventure. Even the hardships of language handicaps, physical discomfort, and maddening delays appeared only part of a fascinating game as Mrs. Ledbetter told of her experiences in buying direct from dealers in various middle-Europe cities. The book posters which she had on display were of distinct merit and had genuine appeal.

Much satisfaction was expressed over the work of the book production committee of the Children's Librarians Section, a report dealing with the problem of bringing out-of-print juveniles back into print being read by Mary Gould Davis of New York. To date arrangements have been made to bring back into print immediately thirteen titles: *Stories of Early England*, by E. M. Wilmot-Buxton (Crowell); *Tall Tales from the Kentucky Mountains*, by Percy MacKaye (Doran); *A Child's Book of Saints*, *A Child's Book of Warriors*, by William Canton (Dutton); *Singing Games*, by Eleanor Farjeon (Dutton); *The Heroes*, by Charles Kingsley (Dutton); *The Adventures of Odysseus*, by F. S. Marvin (Dutton); *Una and the Red Cross Knight*, by N. G. Royde (Dutton); *Johnny Appleseed*, by Eleanor Atkinson (Harper); *Village Life in America*, by C. C. Clarke (Holt); *Christ Legends*, by Selma Lagerlöf (Holt); *Norse Fairy Tales*, translated by Sir George Dasent (Lippincott); *Stories from Old French Romances*, by E. M. Wilmot-Buxton (Stokes).

With maps and charts displaying ingenuity as well as enthusiasm, it was easy to see how completely Boston was surveyed for its book needs, and as Edith Guerrier of the Boston Public Library reported on the methods employed and the results obtained, everyone who heard her wished to conduct a similar survey in his own town. Here again the hardships were minimized as the results were recounted, Miss Guerrier's inimitable style giving an unusual flavor to even the most prosaic details.

A résumé of the forthcoming volume of the A. L. A. curriculum study on book selection and order work prepared by F. K. W. Drury, Brown University Library, was read. The material for the text book has been assembled and certain chapters have been written, but Mr. Drury's report commented only briefly on the chapter outlines. In conclusion, he said "If anything new or significant is to be found in the book, it is probably the placing of the emphasis of selection on the community rather than on the book."

Book selection from a purely personal angle occupied the second part of the program, when seven librarians told what books they had chosen when asked to report on "the book I have enjoyed most in the past year." This entertaining session which was voted one of the best of the week does not lend itself to reproduction in the space at our disposal—or in any space.

The entire program moved with celerity and dispatch, an interested audience paid close attention thruout, and the session was brought to a prompt close with the election of the new chairman—Charles W. Smith, of the University of Washington.

BESS MCCREA, *Secretary.*

Periodicals

A COMPREHENSIVE program occupied two sessions on June 21 and June 22.

At the first session the handling of periodicals at the John Crerar, the Carnegie (Pittsburgh), the Indianapolis, and the Grand Rapids public libraries was described. At the second, problems of the New York and Detroit periodicals divisions were discussed, followed by general discussion of the questions: What governs the number of periodicals selected? What to do about binding advertisements? How about the *Cosmopolitan?* (This is included in the list of magazines read by a committee of librarians for the Franklin Square Agency.) Shall we bind advertisements, especially in technical journals?

A committe was appointed to draft a resolution of protest against the inclusion of the *Cosmopolitan* in the Franklin Square Agency's bulletin; a constitution for the group was adopted, and Carolyn F. Ulrich, chief of the periodicals division of the New York Public Library, was elected chairman.

Religious Books

RELIGIOUS BOOKS ROUND TABLE was held on Friday, June 24, with an attendance of seventy-five.

A very informing paper on "Religious Education and Library Co-operation" was read by Alice M. Richardson of the Case Memorial Library of the Hartford Seminary Foundation, Hartford, Conn., who outlined the history of religious education in America, describing its present status, and suggesting the part which the library should play in its development. The interesting discussion which followed brought out many ways in which service can be rendered by librarians to workers in the field of religious education, who are not always aware of the resources at their command.

The question of the supply and demand of religious books in traveling libraries was presented in a brief paper by Elima A. Foster.

Dr. Frank G. Lewis of the Crozer Theological Seminary, Chester, Pa., then presented a list of the fifty outstanding books on religion published in 1926-27, with comment. Most of these books were on exhibit, copies having been contributed by the publishers. Much interest was shown in the list, which will be printed later, and it was felt that a similar, perhaps briefer, list might be supplied to state and county librarians as a guide to their buying.

A suggestion that the round table be organized as a section which might function between conferences and give advice when desired, met with considerable favor, and steps in this direction will be taken.

Officers elected: Elima A. Foster, Cleveland Public Library, chairman; Alice M. Richardson, Case Memorial Library, Hartford, Conn., secretary.

ELIMA A. FOSTER, *Secretary.*

Small Libraries

MARY S. SAXE of Westmount, P. Q., opened the Small Libraries Round Table meeting in her capacity as chairman, on June 23rd. All boundary lines between the United States and Canada seemed to vanish with the warm welcome extended by Miss Saxe in her opening remarks.

The first session was devoted to the problem of developing an art department in libraries in small towns which as a rule do not boast of a separate museum or art gallery. A very able and thoro paper on the subject was presented by Isobel Binks of the Frick Art Reference Library, New York City. Tho the paper was not based on an actual experience, Miss Binks' proposals and sugestions as to what steps she would take, if she were a small town librarian, desirous of inculcating an appreciation of fine arts in her community, were so convincing in their plausibility that they can be utilized in a practical manner by any librarian. Every librarian can easily put up a board covered with putty-colored burlap, place it in a conspicuous place and in good light, where people are bound to notice it, and use it for exhibition purposes. Catalogs of regular and occasional exhibitions can easily be obtained and art galleries usually have fine reproductions for sale at a low price. Care should be taken that the exhibits are not overcrowded, for a multiplicity of subjects tends rather to confuse than uplift. A catalog from a nearby art gallery, left casually where a reader may pick it up may arouse a desire in him to view that particular exhibition. Old magazines, such as the *Ladies' Home Journal, Harper's* of 1855, *Scribner's* and *Century* will prove a rich mine in enlarging a collection of good reproductions. Subscriptions to *Connoisseur* and *International Studio* will prove a profitable investment.

Miss Binks' paper was appropriately rounded out by Agnes Lancefield of Windsor, Ontario, in her inspiring talk on "Fine Arts," illustrated by the completely equipped fine arts room in the library of her small town. The session closed with an interesting talk by Donald Campbell of the Haverhill (Mass.) Public Library, who is aided in his work by a generous bequest which makes it possible for him to carry out his ideas, but even to those less fortunate the speaker gave many useful suggestions as how to bring art to their patrons. Most notable of these was the information that the American Institute of

Graphic Arts of New York City will lend free of charge a collection of fifty prints of the year and will also provide necessary publicity material for the local press.

The session of Thursday afternoon was given over to the problems of "Good Housekeping" in small libraries. The chairman introduced Miss C. M. Monchow of the Dunkirk Free Library, Dunkirk, N. Y., who gave a paper on "Good Housekeeping in the Small Library."

Miss Monchow succeeded in showing where a sound sense of good house-keeping on the part of the librarian may overcome in a large measure all handicaps and endow her institution with an efficiency and outward appearance that will increase its sphere of usefulness and also its attraction for the readers. The proper arrangement of shelves and equipment, regular reading of the shelves, especially in the children's room, prompt removal of shabby and dilapidated books, regular attention to binding, placing ephemeral literature in clean paper boxes, putting the work room and its appliances in the background away from the public eye, a neat delivery desk with clean blotters, and adorned with a few flowers, flower boxes and some ornamental objects placed in the lobby, are some of the things that will add dignity tc and increase the efficiency of a small, and otherwise impoverished library.

Annie A. Masson of Ottawa in her paper on "A Tidy Cataloging Room" pointed out that orderliness not only facilitates the work but also has a good psychological effect upon the workers. Dirt, disorder and disarrangement bring havoc not only to the work itself but to the mental condition of the workers, causing a fretful and depressed condition of mind, and the tremendous effort and outlay of energy required to overcome this depression, can well be utilized for a more productive purpose. Ample elbow space in working quarters, an abundance of selves, avoiding lost motion by the proper planning of the various stages of the work will go far towards expediting matters and saving time. Great stress should be laid on the proper location and appearance of the catalog. It must have constant attention because it suffers so much from being constantly handled. In order to maintain the catalog in good and attractive condition, the library at McGill University proposes to introduce the use of the "emery wheel" to remove the grimy thumb marks from the cards.

Grace Steele of Bradford, Pa., was elected chairman and Miss C. M. Monchow of Dunkirk, N. Y., secretary for the next meeting.

GRACE STEELE, *Secretary.*

Free on Request

There have been turned over to The New York Public Library from the Estate of the late Job E. Hedges, several copies of his book *Common Sense in Politics*, an octavo volume of 253 pages, published in 1919. A copy of the book will be sent prepaid to any public library requesting it from the Acquisition Division.

A limited number of copies of a bibliography on "Biography as a Literary Form" is available for free distribution and may be obtained from Miss Marie Anna Newberry at the Toledo (O.) Public Library. The list was worked out as a project in the Survey of Literature course by the Training Class of the Toledo Public Library, and while not aiming at completeness is fairly comprehensive, since it covers all the material in the Toledo library. Supplementing the list there is a three-page bibliography of biographical lists.

Invitation from the Association of Assistant Librarians

American librarians and other visitors interested are cordially invited to attend the inaugural meeting of the thirty-third session of the Association of Assistant Librarians at the Guildhall, London, on Wednesday, October 5. In the afternoon visits will be made to the Guildhall, the Library, the Art Gallery, etc. At 6:30 p.m. the inaugural address will be delivered by George H. Locke, the ex-president of the A. L. A. The chair will be taken by Viscount Burnham.

Houston Public Library Handbook

An attractive pamphlet describing and illustrating the artistic new building of the Houston (Texas) Public Library is supplemented by the librarian's annual report for 1926, which includes addresses and prize poems presented at the dedication ceremonies October 18, 1926. An appendix to the report contains a paper, "Early Houston Society and its Relation to Libraries," by Mrs. A. B. Looscan, and the constitution of the Philosophical Society of Texas, the first concerted movement outside of churches and schools toward literary culture in Houston. The constitution was adopted December 5th, 1837, and the ninety years that have elapsed have seen the impulse given by the Philosophical Society develop thru the Houston Lyceum and the Houston Lyceum and Carnegie Library to the institution of today, working thru twenty-three agencies and circulating 475,774 books.

THE LIBRARY JOURNAL

TWICE-A-MONTH AUGUST, 1927

DR. BOSTWICK'S thought-provoking paper, which he made his presidential address before the American Library Institute, offers a good line of demarcation between the work of the library and of the school in adult education. That the library should present all sides of a subject thru the books on its shelves, while the school presents what it considers the orthodox tenets; that the library affords a wide range of knowledge, while the school tells what the pupil ought to know; that the library informs learners, while the school teaches pupils—all these are principles which, however acceptable without argument, will bear restating from time to time. It is only by such restatement that these can be brought to realization in practice. Pedagogy has no place in the library, tho a reader may rightly be aided to such extent as he may desire on the method illustrated by the admirable series "Books With a Purpose" which suggests usefully the principle of selective reading.

MANY years ago Dr. Poole suggested that the library school was unnecessary because a public library was in itself the best school for the profession. Dr. Bostwick does not go so far, but raises question whether the university method may not be applied in the library schools, somewhat to the detriment of breadth of method when the graduate becomes a public librarian. It may be said, however, that the business of a library school is to teach and that teaching is technical work which a university and not a public library is the better qualified to do. In taking the position that the university is, after all, the preferable place for the library school the Board of Education for Librarianship probably meets the views of most librarians. Nevertheless, the contrary opinion, involving criticism of pedagogical methods, is worth while as a preventive of extreme technicality in teaching methods. The old fashion of teaching journalism was thru the composing room, the reporter's desk and the minor editorial positions, but much has been gained by the journalistic profession in the establishment of schools of journalism within the great universities.

THERE has been a marked tendency indeed in recent years to strengthen the library profession in its upper positions from the ranks of the universities. Thus Johns Hopkins finds its new librarian, as once before, among the members of the teaching staff and the head selected for the organization of the graduate library school in connection with the University of Chicago is Professor George Alan Works of Cornell University. Professor Works is joint-author with Chancellor Capen of the University of Buffalo of a valuable report on the university library not yet before the public, made for the Carnegie Foundation. He will have a full year in which to develop his plan of organization and the new curriculum and to select the staff, so that the new school may open in the fall of 1928 in full panoply. Naturally the Graduate School will offer fine opportunities for its graduate students in the universities, but also its training should be valuable to the men and women who will ultimately become heads of the great public libraries, so much greater in future years than even they are today.

FOR the past three years the Paris Library School has been made possible by public spirited generosity first from Miss Anne Morgan's committee and later from John D. Rockefeller, Jr. His gift was made in the hope that at the end of the period the school would find sufficient support from other sources for the continuance of the good work which would then be proven. The school has certainly made good for it has obtained and trained a good number of students who add to the equipment obtained from American schools more linguistic advantages than most of our library school graduates can boast. In fact its graduates are such as would be useful not only in France and in other continental countries, from which its students come or to which they could go, but in the United States from the Library of Congress down they could be of high usefulness providing they were not involved in the pitfalls of our restrictive immigration laws which is to be hoped may soon be broadened as to the library field by including the word "librarian" among

the stated exceptions. It is earnestly to be hoped that corporate or private generosity will insure the continuance of the Paris Library School, as the A. L. A. authorities feel unable to utilize any part of the income from the new endowments for use in the foreign field. The American Library in Paris has already obtained substantial, tho not yet adequate local support but it is scarcely possible to obtain funds for the library school otherwise than from America. That the school should stop for lack of funds would be an international misfortune.

Library Book Outlook

THE relatively few new books that have become available since the publication of the last issue, include the following:

In Travel, *Touring England by Road and Byway*, by Sydney R. Jones (914.2, Scribner, $2.75), which is intended for the saunterer awheel or afoot, rather than for the motorist: *When You Go to London*, by H. V. Morton (914.21, Harper, $2.50), which is not merely a guide-book, but a description of London life, month by month, with some account of social custom and tradition; and *The Frantic Atlantic*, by Basil Woon (910, Knopf, $2.50), an amusing guide to transatlantic voyaging, the ships, the people, and the amenities of life on board a liner.

Biography books comprise *Trader Horn*, by Alfred Aloysius Horn (Simon and Schuster, $4), which is a strange story of romantic adventure and dangerous exploration, the story of a Rip Van Winkle who awoke from a sleep in Africa and told a tale more marvelous than Marco Polo's; *Hawthorne: a Study in Solitude*, by Herbert S. Gorman (Doran, $2), in the new series of "Murray Hill Biographies," and its companion volume in the same series, *Upton Sinclair: a Study in Social Protest*, by Floyd Dell (Doran, $2); and *Charles Lindbergh: His Life*, by Dale Van Every (Appleton, $2), an account based on material gathered by the United Press.

Lindbergh's own story of his career, entitled *We*, is expected shortly from Putnam's.

Three history books of importance are: *Rome*, by M. Rostovtzeff (930, Oxford Univ. Pr., $5), being Volume 2 of the author's "History of the Ancient World"; *Sunrise in the West*, by Adrian Stokes (901, Harper, $3), containing the author's conception of Western civilization and his prophecy of an art and culture that will be its crowning achievement; and *A Frenchman Looks at the Peace*, by Alcide Ebray (940.9, Knopf, $4), indicating the disastrous results of post-war diplomacy and suggesting constructive steps looking toward international good-will.

In Sociology we have *The Public Debt*, by Laurits V. Birck (336, Dial Press, $4), which treats of the national debts of some of the world-powers, and of the economic place of public debts in general; *The World's Meat*, by Robert J. McFall (339, Appleton, $6), a discussion of one phase of the world's food problem; *Your Money's Worth*, by Stuart Chase (338, Macmillan, $2), a study in the waste of the consumer's dollar, analyzing the results of high-pressure salesmanship and proposing a way of saving billions; and *Navies and Nations*, by Hector C. Bywater (355, Houghton-Mifflin, $4), a review of naval development since the World War, and of the naval situation today.

A new volume in the "Our Debt to Greece and Rome" series is *Greek and Roman Folk-Lore*, by William R. Halliday (398, Longmans, $1.75).

Fine and Useful Arts books include *How to Identify Oriental Rugs*, by ffrida Wolfe (745, Harper, $5); *Clothing: Fundamental Problems*, by Louise E. Bulger Jordan (646, Barrows, $3), telling how to design, make, and care for women's clothes; and *The New Servant: Electricity in the Home*, by Mary Ormsbee Whitton (640, Doubleday, $2), being an explanation of new domestic electrical appliances to take the place of the domestic servant.

New fiction of interest includes: J. C. Snaith's *The Hoop* (Appleton, $2.50), a thoroly entertaining story of a superbly handsome and successful woman, not complicated with sex episodes; Rex Beach's *The Mating-Call* (Harper, $2), a romantic love story, dealing with a shell-shocked war hero, a Russian immigrant, and a "lovely American girl"; and two new J. S. Fletcher stories—*The Green Rope* (Knopf, $2), a murder-mystery story, and *The Harvest Moon* (Doran, $2), in which the hero, a wandering artist, finds the heroine on a farm in Holland and brings love and tragedy into her life.

Among recent reprints and new editions we note the following: *Memoirs of Benvenuto Cellini*, the Thomas Roscoe translation, in the "World's Classics" series (Biog., Oxford Univ. Pr., 80c.); *Thomas Holcroft's Memoirs*, likewise in the "World's Classics" series (Biog., Oxford Univ. Pr., 80c.); *Barnum's Own Story* (Biog., Viking Press, $3), combined and condensed from the various editions of P. T. Barnum's autobiography published during his lifetime; the *Autobiographies* of William Butler Yeats (Biog., Macmillan, $3.50), a reissue of his *Reveries over Childhood and Youth* and *The Trembling of the Veil*; Plato's *Dialogues*, the Benjamin Jowett translation, in the "Black

and Gold Library" (833, Boni & Liveright, $3.50); *The Land's End*, by W. H. Hudson (914.2, Knopf, $3.50), the record of a winter spent by the author-naturalist in Cornwall, which has long been out of print; *South America*, by Franklin H. Martin (918, Revell, $3), a revised edition of this well known guide book, amplified to include all of Latin America; Anthony Trollope's *Framley Parsonage*, in the "World's Classics" series (Fiction, Oxford Univ. Pr., 80c.); Anna Katharine Green's *Hand and Ring* (Fiction, Dodd-Mead, $2), an early detective story; Rafael Sabatini's *The Tavern Knight* (Houghton-Mifflin, $2.50), one of the author's earlier romances; and *The Practical Book of American Antiques, Exclusive of Furniture*, by H. D. Eberlein (740, Lippincott, $8.50), a revised and enlarged edition of *The Practical Book of Early American Arts and Crafts*, originally published in 1916.

LOUIS N. FEIPEL.

Brooklyn Public Library

Among Librarians

Margaret L. Babcock, 1927 Wisconsin, appointed librarian of the Dudgeon School Branch of the Madison Free Library.

Elizabeth Battin, 1926 Wisconsin, who has been doing special cataloging for the Public Library, Fairbault, Minn., since February, becomes librarian of the High School Library, Mankato, Minn., in September.

Robert P. Bliss, since 1919 chief of the division of library extension of the Pennsylvania State Library and Museum, and previously assistant secretary of the Pennsylvania Free Library Commission, retired in June. He is succeeded by Anna A. MacDonald, recently acting director of the State Library and Museum, who, since the appointment of Frederic A. Godcharles as director, has been serving as library consultant.

Dagny Borge, 1925 Wisconsin, reviser and assistant on the staff of the Wisconsin Library School since her graduation, leaves at the end of the summer session to join the staff of the Iowa Library Commission, Des Moines, as organizer.

Georgia Bowman, 1926 Wisconsin, who has been on the staff of the Detroit Public Library since graduation, has resigned to take charge of the county library work of the Public Library of Harrisburg, Pa.

Esther Friedman Brayden, 1921 Wisconsin, resigned as assistant in the reference department of the Duluth Public Library in February to become chief of circulation in the McHenry Public Library, Modesto, Calif., which is both a city and county library.

Irma Brink, 1924-26 New York Public, has joined the staff of the American Library in Paris.

Ruth Brown, 1916-17 New York State, has been appointed cataloger at the University of Kentucky Library for the coming year.

Lucius H. Cannon, librarian of the Municipal Reference Library, St. Louis, Mo., who is recovering from an automobile accident, begs correspondents to accept this explanation of apparent neglect.

Charlotte H. Clark, 1917 Wisconsin, promoted to be supervisor of school work in the Public Library of the District of Columbia, July 1.

Letha M. Davidson, 1923 Wisconsin, head of the grade school department, Milwaukee Public Library, appointed children's librarian Des Moines Public Library, beginning her new duties September 1.

Christian R. Dick, 1916-17 New York State, has joined the library staff of the University of Southern California as senior assistant in the loan department.

Helen K. Dresser, 1923 Wisconsin, of the Cleveland Public Library, appointed children's librarian of the La Crosse Public Library, succeeding Nora Beust, resigned.

Alice M. Dunlap, 1917-19 New York Public, is now in charge of the Training Class at the Cincinnati (Ohio) Public Library.

Isabel Dunn, 1919 Simmons, formerly a cataloger at the Lynn (Mass.) Public Library, appointed cataloger in the Dartmouth College Library.

Alice M. Emmons, 1914 Wisconsin, has returned to library work and is now senior assistant in the reference department of the Detroit Public Library.

Polly Fenton, 1909 Wisconsin, who has spent the past year working on the second part of the *Standard Catalog for High School Libraries*, joins the staff of the New Jersey College for Women, at New Brunswick, in September to teach cataloging, classification, and reference in a new senior elective course now offered in the college. During the summer she is teaching cataloging in the summer session of the School of Library Service, Columbia University.

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Julia M. Fink, 1918 Wisconsin, assistant librarian, elected librarian of the Public Library, Aurora, Ill., to fill the vacancy left by the death of James Shaw, who had been librarian for many years.

Grace L. Giffin, 1924-1925 New York State, appointed reference librarian at the University of Utah for the coming year.

Gladys Graves, 1925 Simmons, has accepted the position of first assistant in the Dearborn (Mich.) Public Library.

Helen Hempstead, 1923-1924 Wisconsin, has been appointed librarian in charge of the Butman-Fish Library, Saginaw, Mich.

Louis T. Ibbotson, 1925 New York State, is resigning his position as reference librarian at Duke University to accept the assistant librarianship at the Rochester Public Library.

Olive Jones, who since 1893 has been the librarian of the Ohio State University Library, was appointed associate professor of bibliography on July 1, being relieved of the librarianship because of serious illness during the past year. Miss Jones, the first person to fill the position of librarian, from the first was a member of the university faculty and has always enjoyed full academic rank. Under her administration the library grew from a small collection housed in one room to one of 300,000 volumes housed in a fine building erected in 1913.

Gertrude Kosmoski, '24, resigned as librarian of the Public Library, Dowagiac, Mich., to accept the librarianship of the Ponca City Public Library, succeeding Violet Kohler, 1924 Wisconsin, who will spend a year in travel.

Willis Holmes Kerr, librarian of Pomona College, is charged with the selection and purchase of the Floating University's library, and will teach "a limited number of advanced courses in library methods." Mrs. Kerr will act as dean of women and will teach art and history. W. H. Carothers, who succeeded Mr. Kerr as librarian of Kansas State Teachers College, joins the university also, to teach education, not as librarian as was recently announced in the LIBRARY JOURNAL.

Louise P. Latimer, director of children's work at the District of Columbia Public Library, has compiled *Illustrators*, a list of American and foreign illustrators "whose work in books for girls and boys seems of sufficient merit to warrant inclusion." The list aims to answer questions asked in a children's department by artists, teachers, and book lovers regarding available illustrators, and is confined to titles in English and in print.

Elizabeth B. Lewis, 1923 Simmons, previously at the Rochester (N. Y.) Public Library, has gone to the Connecticut College Library, New London, as assistant in circulation and reference.

Lionel R. McColvin, librarian of Ipswich (England) Public Libraries, and author of *The Theory of Book Selection* and *Music in Public Libraries*, contributes to Dutton's "Today and Tomorrow" series *Euterpe, or The Future of Art* (cl., 75p., $1), dealing with the rôle of the purely mechanical factor in the art-life of today.

Mrs. Gertrude Kelly Menger, 1918 Wisconsin, has recently gone to the Public Library, Elkhart, Ind., as cataloger; she had previously been the librarian at Great Lakes Naval Training Station.

Anna R. Moore, 1925 Wisconsin, has joined the staff of the Wisconsin Library Commission, with charge of the Community Service Branch of the Traveling Library Department.

Beatrice Prall, who has been acting librarian of the Saginaw (Mich.) Public Libraries for the past year, appointed librarian.

Pauline H. Rich, 1926 Wisconsin, librarian of the Public Library, Bismarck, N. D., has resigned to become librarian in the new State Normal School at Billings, Mont.

Tuck Röd, 1925 Wisconsin, was appointed chief of the music department of the Public Library, Bergen, Norway, in March. The collection consists of 12,000 volumes plus the personal collection of Edvard Grieg which was bequeathed to the library.

Evelyn T. Ross, 1916 Wisconsin, goes to the Fresno County Library, Calif., as children's librarian in August. Miss Ross has been on Miss Hunt's staff in the children's department of the Brooklyn Public Library for a number of years.

Mary L. Spalding, 1925 Wisconsin, assistant in the reference department, Minnesota University Library, promoted to have charge of the periodical room.

Dorothy Teare, 1923-1924 Illinois, appointed assistant librarian of the Public Libraries of Saginaw, Mich.

Joseph Walton, sub-librarian of the Newcastle upon Tyne (England) Public Library, has compiled a *Calendar of the Greenwell Deeds* in the Public Reference Library, translating into English such of the documents (which range from 1137 to 1823) as were written in Latin or Norman French. The volume (237p., 4 pl.) is published jointly by the Public Libraries Committee and the Society of Antiquaries of Newcastle upon Tyne.

Irma M. Walker, 1915 Wisconsin, reference librarian of the Public Library, Long Beach, Calif., has resigned to accept a similar position in the Public Library, Hibbing, Minn.

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Amy Winslow, 1916 New York State, for six years on the staff of the Indianapolis Public Library (one year as head of the reference depratment, part-time in charge of publicity, five years in organizing and supervising the industrial and technical collection), has been appointed assistant librarian, succeeding Eliza Gordon Browning.

Members of the class of 1927 of the Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh School have been appointed to the following positions:

Lena Albert, branch librarian, Providence (R. I.) Public Library; Margaret Allen, information assistant, central lending department, Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh; Kathryn L. Attwood, assistant, Chicago (Ill.) Public Library; Elizabeth M. Beal, children's librarian, Beaver Falls (Pa.) Pubic Library; Alice Brown, children's librarian, Duluth (Minn.) Public Library; Marion Brown, assistant, Cleveland (Ohio) Public Library; Marian Cable, assistant, Youngstown (Ohio) Public Library; Grace E. Crum, children's librarian, Brooklyn (N. Y.) Public Library; Mrs. Helen H. Downs, assistant, University of Pittsburgh Library; Alice M. Foster, school librarian, Orange, Ohio; Susan Himmelwright, librarian, Woodlawn (Pa.) Public Library; Josephine Johnson, children's librarian, Detroit Public Library; Alva Jones, school librarian, Farrell, Pa.; Cecilia Kintner, children's librarian, Seattle (Wash.) Public Library; Eleanor Kissane, Beatrice Levaur, and Margaret Morris, assistants, children's department, Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh; Sister Mary Hieronyme, librarian, Mt. Mercy Academy, Pittsburgh, Pa.; M. Eleanor McCann, assistant, Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh; Muriel McLoughry, assistant, children's department, Public Library, Lakewood, Ohio; Alice R. Murtha, children's librarian, Public Library, East Cleveland, Ohio; Janet Nixon, school librarian, Clairton, Pa.; Muriel Norton, assistant, Public Library, Fort Wayne, Ind.; Dorothy Nuttall, assistant, Reference Department, Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh; Catherine Oberly, assistant, Technology Department, Cleveland Public Library; Frances Renshaw, assistant, Central Children's Room, Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh; Lois Smalley, branch librarian, Public Library, Evansville, Ind.; Mabelle Smith, children's librarian, Public Library, Albany, N. Y.; Marcella Strain, assistant, Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh; Mrs. Louise Thomson, librarian, Public Library, Stowe Corners, Ohio; H. Loraine Urtel, assistant, Public Library, Lockport, N. Y.; Elizabeth Whitten, children's librarian, Public Library, Ashtabula, Ohio; Genevieve Warnock, special cataloging, Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh.

Additional appointments of students of the Columbia University of Library Service are: Mary N. Barton, reference assistant, Enoch Pratt Free Library, Baltimore, Md.; Dorothy J. Fell, assistant, circulation department, New York Public Library; Elizabeth Ives, reviser during summer session, School of Library Service, Columbia University; Betsey T. Keene, librarian, school library, Oswego, N. Y.; Florence I. King, assistant, school reference staff, circulation department, New York Public Library; Rowena King, assistant school reference staff, circulation department, New York Public Library; Ruth E. Brown, temporary assistant, H. W. Wilson Co.; Anna E. Crooks, assistant librarian, School of Business, Columbia University; Eleanor E. Goehring, assistant in the circulation department, University of Tennessee Library; Helen Hancock, branch assistant, Minneapolis Public Library; Borghild Krane and Kristine Lomsdal, summer assistants, New York Public Library; Harriet McKay, children's librarian, Flagler Memorial Library, Miami, Fla.; Mertice L. Morris, reference librarian, Boise (Idaho) Public Library; Naomi Nash, summer assistant, Rochester Public Library; Margaret Nicholson, librarian, State Normal School, Bemidji, Minn.; Mildred Norgaard, summer assistant, Chemists' Club Library, New York City; William O'Rourke, reference librarian, Holy Cross College, Worcester, Mass.; Helen R. L. Pease, summer assistant, circulation department, New York Public Library; Margaret Peets, assistant on school reference staff, circulation department, New York Public Library; Mrs. Catharine J. Pierce, reference librarian, North Carolina College for Women; Elizabeth Simkins, reviser, summer session, School of Library Service, Columbia University; Florence Taylor, in charge of training class, Omaha Public Library; Mary Thomas, summer assistant, School of Library Service, Columbia University; Gordon W. Wilson, head of order department, University of Rochester.

Members of the class of 1927 of the University of Washington Library School have received appointment as follows. Unless otherwise specified the positions are assistantships.

Edith L. Anderson, reference department of the University of Washington Library; Helen G. Anderson, Public Library, Longview, Wash.; Lorna D. Barton, circulation department, University of Washington Library; Marvel Bereiter, Branch Department, Seattle Public Library; Rosamond Blossom, Public Library, Walla Walla, Washington; Flora Campbell, Children's Department, Portland (Ore.) Public Library; Freda Campbell, catalog department, University of Washington Library; Josephine Campbell, Circulation Department, Seattle Public Library;

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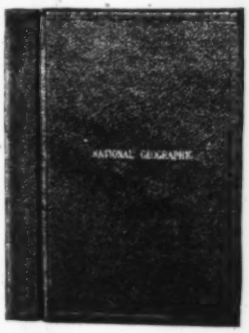

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Lois E. Davis and Hilda Dobrin, children's department, Seattle Public Library; Drusilla Dorland, circulation department, Seattle Public Library; Marjorie Dunton, Detroit Public Library; Margery C. Evans, technical reference department and binding, Oregon Agricultural College; Gladys Garesché, librarian, Nanaimo, B. C.; Katherine Graves, children's department, Seattle Public Library; Lena A. Hartge, catalog department, University of Washington Library; Nellie Harvey, Oregon Agricultural College Library; Lorene Hinman, branch department, Seattle Public Library; Esther Kind, circulation department, Public Library, Vancouver B. C.; Ora Kirschner, New York Public Library; George T. Kittell, science reference department, University of Washington; Rozella Knox, circulation department, Portland (Ore.) Public Library; Mabel Lensrud, reviser, University of Washington Library School; Irene McAfee, catalog department, University of Washington Library; Irene McKibben, branch department, Tacoma Public Library; Natalie B. Notkin, Foreign Department, Seattle Public Library; Mary C. O'Keane, Portland (Ore.) Public Library; Warren L. Perry, librarian, College of Puget Sound, Tacoma, Wash.; Eleanor W. Pineo, secretary to the librarian, University of Washington Library; Lucille Smythe, circulation department, Tacoma Public Library; Olive Swain, catalog department, University of Washington Library; Lucile Taylor, children's department, Tacoma Public Library; Chloe Thompson, temporary position in the Seattle Public Library; and Amy Van Horn, branch department, Seattle Public Library.

Appointments of the Simmons Class of 1927, made since the last list was printed are as follows: Alice M. Brown, general assistant, Clark University Library, Worcester, Mass.; Eleanor Calwell, assistant in lending library, Hathaway House Bookshop, Wellesley, Mass.; Muriel M. Clark, senior assistant, Dearborn (Mich.) Public Library; Mary H. Falt, circulation assistant, University of New Hampshire library, Durham; Margaret Farley, assistant, fine arts department, Boston Public Library; Eleanor R. Graves, cataloger, Ohio State University library, Columbus; Isabelle Lemmon, assistant, Simmons College Library, Boston; Phoebe Lumaree, returns to the Western State Normal School library, Kalamazoo, Mich.; Lillian Frances Naylor, reference assistant, Waco (Texas) Public Library; Phyllis Raymond, librarian, Nishuane Junior High School, Montclair, N. J.; Irene Robinson, assistant, Central State Normal School, Lock Haven, Penn.; Margaret Shipley, branch librarian, East High School, Public Library of the District of Columbia, Washington, D. C.; Mary E. Willis, librarian, Senior High School, Middletown, New York; Dorothy Wing, branch librarian, Hibbing (Minn.) Public Library, Hibbing; Mildred H. Wyman, librarian, Northfield Seminary, East Northfield, Mass.; Evelyn Young, reference and cataloging assistant, Jones Library, Inc., Amherst, Mass.

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Librarian, college graduate, year's course at Berkeley, California, in library science, desires position as high school librarian or children's librarian of a public library. C. L. 14.

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Young woman who has completed summer course wants position in August as substitute or junior assistant. Will give services for expenses, so as to gain experience. M. I. 14.

College and library school graduate seeks position in reference or circulation work. Five years' experience in a college library and in a public library as head of circulation department.

Cataloger, library school graduate with university library experience, wishes position in New York City. O. L. 14.

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Current Literature and Bibliography

How to Become a Children's Librarian, with particular reference to the opportunities offered toward that end by the St. Louis Library School, is the subject of a pamphlet written by Alice I. Hazeltine and issued by the library school at the St. Louis Public Library. Illustrations from photographs show work with children in the public library and its branches, while reproductions from crayon drawings show the attractions of the city.

In *Stories and Poems for Opening Exercises: an Index*, forty-one collections of stories for children, with some books on such other topics as civics and etiquette have been analyzed by Elizabeth Ohr, head of the School Libraries Division of the Indianapolis Public Library (Chicago: A.L.A., pap., 46p., 40c.). The list is arranged alphabetically under subject headings which begin with Accuracy and end with Worry, and include within these limits references to passages on seasons and holidays, animals, flags, sanitation, and so many others that it seems unlikely that any user of the list will fail to find something exactly or approximately appropriate to any occasion.

The *Report of the Proceedings* of the third county library conference held in London November 18 and 19, 1926, is now available post free on application to the secretary of the Carnegie United Kingdom Trust, East Port, Dunfermline, Scotland, who will also furnish another pamphlet, *Some Aspects of the American Public Library Service*, which contains other papers on county libraries read at this conference but not reprinted in the *Report*. Important topics treated at length in papers and subsequent discussion include local centre administration questions, problems posed by populous areas, and transport problems.

Library "fillers" of all lengths, altho usually brief, and of all sorts—prose, poetry, argument, persuasion, and aphorism—have been made ready for the use of workers in a library campaign and the editors of library publications in *Why We Need a Public Library*, a clip sheet for newspapers and magazines compiled by the A. L. A. Committee on Library Extension. General endorsements of the public library are followed by sections showing the many and varied activities of a modern library. Public support and adequate support are emphasized. The fundamental need for books in an age of magazines and radio is also stressed.

Concise, explicit and fully illustrated is *Simple Library Cataloging*, a new handbook for beginning catalogers or librarians of small libraries, written by Susan Grey Akers, assistant professor of library science in the University of Wisconsin Library School and published by the American Library Association (Chicago, cl., 95p., $1.25). So little room is left for uncertainty that the cataloger is even informed that "Barbour's white machine thread, 3 cord, No. 35, is a good thread for tying extension cards to the first card. It may be purchased at any dry goods store." Classification, choice of subject headings, alphabeting and accession records are included in the range of the book.

The list of publications of the Special Libraries Association and its local organizations is assuming important proportions. It was stated at the annual convention of the association at Toronto June 20-22 that 2,500 copies had been printed of the *Bibliography of Illumination* compiled by the Technology Group as "Information Bulletin No. 4," of which 1,800 were sent to the Illuminating Engineers Society, which paid $250. The rest of the edition was distributed free to members of the Association. The *Cumulated Index to Special Libraries*, volume 14-17, compiled by Charlotte Noyes, was printed at a cost of $135. It was distributed free of charge to institutional and individual members, and is sold for fifty cents to others.

The Financial Group, of which Marguerite Burnett is chairman, has compiled during the year a directory of financial libraries in the country. An especially useful bibliographical contribution is a list of government press releases, indicating those of temporary value that can be discarded when they are replaced by later publications, and those of permanent value as the original and sole source of the information. Only a preliminary form of this list is now ready, but it is hoped it will be continued next year. A questionnaire sent to 380 newspaper libraries by the Newspaper Group, of which William Alcott is chairman, was printed and financed by the group itself. The Pittsburgh union list of periodicals is priced at $3 and finds a ready sale among the physicians of Pittsburgh, since the list contains many medical entries. Other lists are in the making at Philadelphia and San Francisco. It is thought that these local lists do not duplicate the *National Union List of Serials* to any serious degree.

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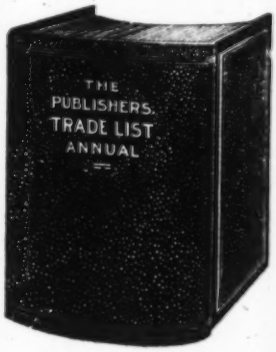

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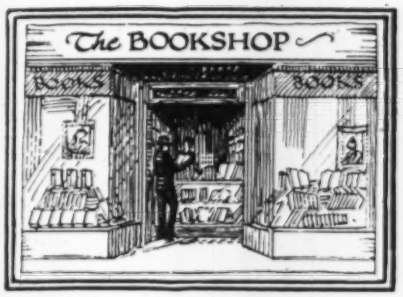

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